

Klibi urges Indian role in Mideast

NEW DELHI (R) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi Sunday urged India as leader of the Non-Aligned Movement to take a more active role in helping to solve the Middle East crisis. Indian officials said Mr. Klibi arrived here Sunday morning on a four-day visit and later had a 90 minute meeting with Indian Foreign Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao. He is due to have talks with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi during his stay. Mr. Klibi discussed the present Middle East situation and the problems within the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) during the meeting. Officials quoted him as telling Mr. Rao India should take a more active part in the Middle East. He pointed out India was chairman of an eight member non-aligned committee on the Middle East established after the non-aligned summit in Delhi last March.

Klibi confers with Prince Saud, page 2

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز جريدة سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الرأي"

OIC mission due in Cairo

RABAT (R) — President Ahmad Sekou Toure of Guinea arrived here Sunday to head a commission that will go to Cairo to discuss Egypt's re-admission to the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), the Moroccan news agency MAP reported. The commission, set up by the fourth Islamic summit in Casablanca earlier this month, includes the foreign ministers of Iraq and Pakistan, Tareq Aziz and Yaqub Khan. OIC Secretary-General Habib Chatti will also travel to Cairo. Mr. Sekou Toure is accompanied by Foreign Minister Abdoulaye Toure and Minister in Charge of Islamic Affairs Fode Soriba Camara. MAP said. The three members of the commission were expected to meet with King Hassan of Morocco, the current chairman of the Islamic summit, before flying later Sunday to Cairo where they would be received by President Hosni Mubarak, diplomatic sources said.

Mubarak seeks closer ties with Africa, page 2

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French official ends visit to Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Secretary-General of the French Foreign Ministry Francis Gouman left Amman Sunday at the end of a two-day visit to Jordan. During the visit he held talks with Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri on Middle Eastern issues and Lebanon. Mr. Gouman was seen off by senior Foreign Ministry officials and French Ambassador to Jordan Jacques Alain de Sedouy.

Heseltine arrives in Saudi Arabia

RIYADH (R) — British Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine arrived in Saudi Arabia Sunday at the start of a two-day official visit. Airport officials said Mr. Heseltine, who will later visit Kuwait, was expected to discuss defence co-operation between Britain and Saudi Arabia in talks with Saudi Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, a British embassy spokesman said.

Fahd, Assad exchange messages

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia exchanged letters Sunday on the situation in Lebanon and the Middle East, the official Syrian News Agency SANA said. The agency said King Fahd's letter was delivered by Sheikh Abdul Aziz Tuwajri, deputy commander of the Saudi National Guard, who arrived in Damascus earlier Sunday. It said, without giving details, that Mr. Assad handed Sheikh Tuwajri a letter replying to the Saudi monarch.

21,000 Indian farmers arrested

NEW DELHI (R) — More than 21,000 farmers have been arrested in four days of protests against low crop prices and land redistribution in the South Indian state of Karnataka, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported Sunday. It quoted police as saying at least 1,500 protesters blocked railway lines in Karnataka's Mandya district Sunday for the second day running, holding up several trains.

Village massacre reported in Uganda

NAIROBI (R) — A gang hacked and shot to death about 30 people, including many children, in a Ugandan village, church sources said Sunday. They forced villagers out of their houses in Muduma, 40 kilometres southwest of Kampala, and robbed them, the sources in Kampala said by telephone. In one house, six children aged between 18 months and 16 years were murdered with knives or machetes, the sources said. The killers' identity was not known.

Israeli municipal workers strike

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israelis faced uncollected piles of garbage Sunday as 70,000 municipal workers went on strike to protest their shrinking pay in face of the spiralling inflation. All municipal and local council services were paralysed, including garbage collection and school buses.

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Israeli police free suspected Kahane followers

W. Bank rises against Aqsa sabotage attempt

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops Sunday imposed curfews on several Palestinian towns and refugee camps amid widespread protests over an attempted sabotage against Al Aqsa Mosque by Jewish extremists last Thursday.

Police Sunday freed four members of the extremist Jewish organisation Kach, led by Rabbi Meir Kahane, who were suspected of the sabotage attempt which was foiled by alert Arab guards of the mosque.

Israeli troops fired tear gas canisters at the central market of Nablus and the nearby Balata refugee camp, then sealed off the areas.

A 17-year-old Palestinian was killed and two others wounded by Israeli troops in other demonstrations Saturday which were triggered by the thwarted assault on the Jerusalem shrine, one of the holiest sites of Islam.

At least two men were spotted by Arab guards as they tried to scale the walls of Haram Al Sharif, enclosing Al Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock shrine.

Both men fled, leaving behind enough explosives to cause high casualties and heavy damage.

Police suspect that the men intended to attack Muslim worshippers at Friday prayers in Al Aqsa and the Mosque of Omar.

Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek Sunday deplored the incident during a call on Sheikh Sa'deddin Al Azzam, the city's Muslim religious leader.

"It will not further Jewish interests, neither in the city nor anywhere and will only bring strife," Mr. Kollek said.

Two men were picked up near the scene where the arms were discovered early Friday and the two others were picked up at Rabbi Kahane's headquarters Saturday, police said. No charges were filed and police refused to name the four.

The Israeli newspaper Haaretz reported that 18 hand grenades and 10 kilograms of explosives were found next to one of the outer walls of Haram Al Sharif.

Israel Radio reported that all the grenades found were of standard Israeli army issue.

Following news of the planned

attack, demonstrations erupted Saturday in which one Palestinian youth was killed and two injured in clashes with Israeli troops in the West Bank city of Nablus.

Rabbi Kahane, who advocates the expulsion of Arabs from Israeli-occupied territory, claimed at news conference that two men picked up for questioning at his headquarters had nothing to do with the abortive attack on the mosque.

But he said: "We would never condemn such an attack (and) should they (the instigators) be caught we would give them full support."

There have been two major attacks on sacred Muslim sites here since Israel occupied the eastern part of the city in the 1967 war.

On Aug. 21, 1969, Al Aqsa Mosque was heavily damaged by a fire that raged out of control for several hours. Michael Denis Rohan, a 28-year-old wanderer and former sheepherder from Sydney, Australia, was convicted of arson and of desecrating a holy place, but he was judged insane and later deported to Australia.

On April 11, 1982, an American Jewish immigrant, and Israeli army reservist, Alan Harry Goldman, opened fire outside the Dome of the Rock, killing a Palestinian guard and wounding at least 35 other persons with an automatic rifle.

Junblatt, Qadhafi and PLO dissidents confer

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's opposition leader Walid Junblatt, who is seeking the resignation of the Beirut government, had talks Sunday with Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, the Libyan news agency IANA reported.

It said the meeting took place in Tripoli but gave no details and did not specify when Mr. Junblatt arrived in the Libyan capital. He also had separate talks with Major Abdul Salam Jalloud, second-in-command to Col. Qadhafi, IANA added.

The agency said both meetings

were attended by Palestinian leaders opposed to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat. They included PLO Executive Committee member Tala' Najji, assistant secretary-general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC).

Libya has been one of the harshest critics of the government of Lebanese President Amin Gemayel, which last November froze diplomatic relations with Tripoli.

Israeli soldier wounded in S. Lebanon bomb attack

BEIRUT (Agencies) — A roadside bomb went off as an Israeli patrol passed by on the coastal highway in southern Lebanon Sunday, the state radio said.

The radio quoted witnesses as saying one Israeli truck was hit and overturned on the side of the coastal highway in the area of Sakakieh, 50 kilometres south of Beirut.

The witnesses said Israeli helicopters circled over the scene of the attack as Israeli troops sealed off the area and searched for assailants or more explosives.

There were no immediate reports on casualties because of the Israeli blockade of the area immediately after the 8:30 a.m. (0630 GMT) attack.

An Israeli spokesman in Tel Aviv later confirmed the attack and said one Israeli soldier was wounded.

The spokesman said the attack occurred three kilometres southeast of the Zaharani River near the village of Sakakieh, Israeli soldiers returned fire and launched an immediate search for the attackers.

Eyewitnesses told reporters in Beirut the attack took place in front of a petrol station on the coastal highway between Sidon and Tyre.

Since Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982, 567 Israelis have been killed, many of them through individual attacks on patrols, according to official Israeli figures.

Reagan expected to declare candidacy for another term

WASHINGTON (R) — After months of playing coy, President Reagan was expected Sunday night to end speculation about whether he will seek a second four-year term in the White House, and his top aides are certain the answer will be "yes."

Mr. Reagan will give the word at 10:55 p.m. local time (0355 GMT Monday) in a five-minute live television broadcast on all the national television networks from the White House Oval Office.

White House aides, Republican Party officials and leaders of Mr. Reagan's well-established reelection committee are so certain he will run that they view the announcement as a mere formality.

Mr. Reagan lent credence to that assumption with a series of campaign-style appearances in the past week in which he mapped out his hopes for the future and lambasted his potential Democratic

Lebanese soldiers injured in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — Two Lebanese army soldiers were wounded Sunday in an attack north of Beirut airport, and militiamen clashed with the army in the hills east of the capital, state-run Beirut Radio and an opposition radio station said.

Beirut Radio said the gunmen fired at the soldiers, members of the military police, in the mainly Shi'ite southern suburbs.

The army traded artillery and automatic weapons fire with the militia of the mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), their main opponents in the mountains overlooking Beirut.

The PSP radio said it fired back at army attacks, but the army insisted it was the PSP who fired first.

The army said it suffered no casualties in the mountain battles.

Salem heads for Rome

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salem left for Rome via Paris Sunday to ask Italy to maintain its commitment to the Multi-National Force (MNF) in Beirut, official sources and state-run Beirut Radio said.

Official sources said he was not likely to hold talks in Paris.

Beirut Radio said he would meet Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi and the Italian foreign and defence ministers.

They would discuss the situation in Lebanon and Italy's contribution to the MNF, and would cover the results of talks held in Rome on Friday by Mr. Craxi and British Prime Minister Thatcher.

Mr. Salem would also discuss an Italian loan of \$120 million to finance several projects in Lebanon, the radio said.

Last week he visited France and Britain, which along with the United States provide troops and have renewed their commitments.

Rome has pulled out 600 of its 2,100 soldiers in the face of domestic pressure. But Italian Premier Craxi said on Friday Italy would not decide unilaterally to leave Lebanon.

At a joint news conference, he and Mrs. Thatcher said they saw a possible expanded role for the United Nations which could affect the four-nation force's role.



His Majesty King Hussein Sunday chairs a meeting of the cabinet (Petra photo)

King issues directives to cabinet

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday issued directives to cabinet members on new policies to be adopted in view of the restoration of parliamentary life to Jordan.

The directives were issued at a cabinet session chaired by King Hussein who spoke about the "new stage of political life in Jordan and the impact of economic and political circumstances the Middle East region is facing at present and their effect on the country," the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

King Hussein urged the government to exert more efforts at all levels, and to extend all possible support for the Palestinian cause and display honesty and sincerity under all conditions and circumstances, Petra said. It said the King wished the government success in its endeavours.

Before the session, King Hussein held a meeting with Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat to discuss a number of general issues confronting the new government at the start of its term in office.

Both meetings were attended by Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Oqam, and Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh.

Parliament to hear government policy statement today, page 3

Insurance firms told to boost capital

By Ibrahim Noori Reuter

AMMAN — Insurance firms in Jordan have been told to increase their paid-up capital to one million Jordanian dinars under a new law designed to strengthen and regulate the insurance market, an industry ministry official said Sunday.

Under the law, effective from early next month, the firms must also place a deposit with the government, 25 per cent in cash and the balance in the form of local shares and bonds.

The paid-up capital under the previous 1965 insurance law had been fixed at JD 100,000, a figure now considered too low in view of the market's growth and responsibility, the ministry's insurance controller, Radhi Ibrahim, told Reuters.

The deposits vary from JD 150,000 for JD 400,000, He said five of the Jordanian companies already had capital exceeding the new limit and he did not expect any difficulties for the others, except for six smaller firms. These could resort to mergers, he added.

"The market is overloaded and merger could be beneficial," Mr. Ibrahim said. But he excluded foreign insurance companies from this possibility.

He said premiums on insurance of all kinds paid last year totalled JD 24 million, about nine per cent more than in 1982. He expected a similar increase this year.

He said the law also stipulated for the first time that the insurance companies keep the ministry informed of all insurance policies.

Insurance firms not applying the law will lose their licence.

Kohl, ending visit to Israel, indicates disagreement over Saudi arms sales

TEL AVIV (AP) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl ended a six-day visit to Israel Sunday in apparent disagreement with Israeli officials over West German plans to sell arms to Saudi Arabia.

Dr. Kohl's plane took off for Germany shortly after 12:30 p.m. local time (1030 GMT) after an airport ceremony in which he inspected an honour guard and was seen off by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, other Israeli officials and religious leaders.

In a final press conference, Dr. Kohl told reporters he and Mr. Shamir "do not see eye to eye on every item" — and later made it clear he was referring to the Saudi arms deal plans.

Dr. Kohl pledged at the press conference to "fully consider the legitimate interests of friendly countries in this region," including Israel, in deciding on the arms package. "We must take our decisions according to our convictions, but aware of our responsibilities," he said, speaking in German with an English translator at his side.

Nevertheless, for the second time in three days, he also stressed that Germany will take its decision based on how the issue is seen from Bonn, not Israel.

"I did not come to decide this question here, or to consider it here or to prepare it in such a way that it is decided here," he said.

On Friday, he had told German reporters: "German policy is made in Bonn and not in Israel. This is well understood by Israel."

At its regular Sunday morning session, the Israeli cabinet heard a report on the Kohl visit and Cabinet Secretary Dan Veridor summarised the status of the Saudi arms discussions this way for reporters: "We would see this as a serious step and hope that Germany will take into consideration our arguments and not do it."

From the day of his arrival on Tuesday, Dr. Kohl's visit was dominated by Israeli insistence on objecting publicly to the proposed Saudi arms sale.

At the press conference Sunday, Dr. Kohl also repeated that Germany, in conjunction with the rest of Europe, was ready to help in any way it could in resolving the Middle East conflict. But he said the main burden of mediation was on the United States.

"It is our interest to be of help and to assist the Americans." Previously, in public, Dr. Kohl had reiterated the European position of seeking Palestinian self-determination alongside Arab recognition of Israel.

Arms sales could trigger 'pre-emptive' strikes, Israeli official says, page 2

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The trip was also put off because Mr. Arafat extended his West African tour.

Informed diplomats here said some members of Mr. Arafat's inner circle still appeared to have reservations about his methods of seeking a political solution to the Palestinian problem.

The Arab World was stunned when Mr. Arafat went to Cairo last month for a reconciliation with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and the Fateh Central Committee later criticised Mr. Arafat's go-it-alone move as an "organisational deviation."

Abu Jihad is due to deliver a report on his recent talks with King Hussein, the first by a top PLO official since the dialogue was broken off last year.

It was not clear when the Fateh Central Committee meeting would begin as two key Fateh members were still believed to be outside Tunisia Sunday.

Abu Jihad, in his interview with the London-based Saudi newspaper Ashraq Al Awsat, said the PLO's parliament-in-exile, the Palestinian National Council (PNC), was likely to convene in two and a half to three months' time.

Romania voices continued support for PLO leader

VIENNA (R) — Romania confirmed its backing of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat following his meeting in Bucharest Saturday with Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu, the official Agereps news agency reported.

Agereps said Mr. Arafat, who arrived earlier Saturday, informed Mr. Ceausescu of the latest developments in the Middle East and his recent talks with some Arab leaders.

It said Mr. Ceausescu had called for greater efforts to reach a political solution to the Palestinian problem and for the convening of an international conference on the PLO and other concerned parties.

"The significance was also stressed of strengthening Palestinian national unity within the PLO under the leadership of Yasser Arafat," Agereps added.

Romania, which under Mr. Ceausescu takes a foreign policy line more independent of Moscow than its other Warsaw Pact allies, has in the past played a backstage role as an intermediary in Middle East affairs.

Romania, the only Communist bloc country to have diplomatic ties with Israel, has nevertheless stressed that a prime condition for peaceful settlement of the Middle East crisis is Israel's withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied after the 1967 war.

Iraq says it will attack vessels approaching Iran's Kharg Island

BASRA, Iraq (R) — The commander of Iraq's naval and coastal defences has warned that the Iraqi Air Force and navy will attack any vessels approaching Kharg Island, the site of Iran's main export oil terminal in the Gulf.

Navy Brigadier Ahmed Mohamad Abdullah told a group of foreign reporters during a weekend visit to his headquarters that his forces had clear orders to attack any ship violating a "zone of military operations" declared by Iraq in August 1982.

He defined the zone as extending from Khor Abdullah at the mouth of the Shatt Al Arab waterway to between 30 and 35 miles south of the Iranian Gulf port of Bushehr. Kharg Island lies within the defined limits.

Abdullah said Iraqi gunboats and planes had attacked Kharg Island four times since the Gulf war started in September 1980, and had carried out what he described as six successful operations to the south of the island.

Iraq has said Iraqi vessels and warplanes had also attacked ships approaching Iranian ports at the head of the Gulf, sinking at least two non-Iranian merchant vessels among 20 "enemy naval targets" Iraq says it destroyed in the past three months.

Brig. Abdullah added that Iranian wells in the offshore Nowruz Oil Field in the Gulf were "still ablaze after an Iraqi attack last year."

Asked if Kharg Island was in-

cluded in an area of the Gulf reported to have been mined by Iraq, he said "it is not mined yet."

Baghdad radio had indicated mines had been laid in the area of the island last year at the same time the entrance to the Iranian port of Bandar Khomeini was reported to have been mined.

Brig. Abdullah denied that French-supplied Super-Étendard fighter-bombers, equipped with Exocet missiles, had been used to attack "naval targets" in the Gulf.

He said the Iraqi Navy and Air Force had access to modern reconnaissance and detection devices to spot any vessel entering the Gulf through the Strait of Hormuz.

"We know their identity and cargo immediately after their entrance in the Gulf," he said.

Asked if super-tankers were also targets for Iraqi attacks, Brig. Abdullah said: "There is no exception... any ship that violates the prohibited zone will be attacked."

"But the decision which target to attack is in the hands of the political leadership of Iraq," he added.

Brig. Abdullah said Japanese and Greek ships had begun to avoid the prohibited zone after a series of attacks by the Iraqi Navy

and Air Force on vessels approaching it.

"We have the means to strike any ship when we wish," he said.

The Iraqi commander spoke in detail of a 350-mile foray he led against "enemy targets" south of Kharg Island.

He said operation took 17 hours and its timing was so precise the attacking ships arrived in the combat area only 10 minutes out of schedule.

"We destroyed five enemy ships, including the Italian SS Rinaldo, proclaimed destroyed in the Lloyd's reports," he said.

The commander said the Iraqi Navy had turned the Khor Musa Channel area at the head of the Gulf "into a graveyard for enemy ships... 70 per cent of the convoys which approached the zone were destroyed." The port of Bandar Khomeini lies up the channel.

Brig. Abdullah said Lloyd's reports confirmed the sinking of 45 ships in the area in Iraqi attacks, in addition to dozens of Iranian ships and other vessels not registered with Lloyd's.

He added without elaboration that Iran now was unable to get more than two tankers to Kharg Island, which he said had capacity for handling 12 tankers.

Asked if the Iraqi Navy would be able to protect ships taking on oil at a projected Iraqi floating terminal at Fao at the head of the Gulf, he said this was also the duty of his navy.

But he did not confirm reports such a terminal was under construction.

Diplomats in Baghdad said last year a British firm had building a floating terminal using buoys to replace the old Fao Oil Terminal destroyed by Iranian air attacks in the early days of the war.

Fao lies on the west bank at the tip of the Shatt Al Arab, the waterway in which the Tigris and Euphrates rivers join to run into the Gulf.

Iraq has repeatedly threatened to hit at Iranian oil installations in Kharg Island, about 130 miles from Iraqi territory, it Tehran launched an expected new offensive in the war.

Diplomats say Baghdad also now sees a decisive blow against a target such as Kharg Island as the way to force Iran to the negotiating table.

They say Iraq has received Soviet SS-12 medium-range ballistic missiles with a range of up to 800 kilometres. It also has other shorter-range Soviet missiles and air-to-ground French Exocets.

For its part, Tehran has warned it would block the Gulf if Iranian oil movements were disrupted. About one-sixth of the non-Communist World's oil imports pass through the Gulf.

While Iran depends on oil exports to finance its war effort, the conflict has cut Iraqi exports drastically, imposing severe strains on the economy.



Emad Hamdi
Egyptian actor dies

CAIRO (AP) — Emad Hamdi, the Egyptian actor who was the idol of Egyptian women during the 1950's and 1960's, died Saturday of a heart attack. He was 75.

Hamdi had been ill for the past eight years.

He started acting in early 1940's, after a humble start as an accountant at Egypt's main studio, Studio Misr.

He rose to fame and became well-known for his romantic roles. When he died, he had appeared in more than 350 films and plays.

He was awarded several prizes and decorations including the Order of Arts and Literature conferred upon him by late President Gamal Abdul Nasser and the Order of Arts and Science granted by the late President, Anwar Sadat.

Former Greek dictator sponsors new party

ATHENS (R) — Though jailed for life for staging a coup in 1967, Greece's ex-dictator, George Papadopoulos, Sunday sponsored a new right-wing political party, the National Political Union (EPEN).

In a recorded speech smuggled out of nearby Korydallos Prison the former army colonel said he had decided to speak out after nine years behind bars because the situation in Greece had deteriorated dangerously, both politically and economically.

About 5,000 people gathered at a hotel here to hear speakers announce EPEN's formation and Mr. Papadopoulos' speech.

After his downfall in 1974 Mr. Papadopoulos and his ruling military triumvirate's other two members lost their civil rights for life and are still not entitled to form political parties. Thus, he did not form EPEN Sunday but only sponsored it.

There was immediate speculation EPEN would take some votes from the conservative New Democracy Party, which is now struggling to wrest power at the polls from Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu's Socialists.

In his recorded speech, Mr. Papadopoulos said that under the Socialists Greeks were suffering from recession, high inflation, unemployment and excess taxation while the government cultivated an anti-American, anti-Western climate.

Mubarak seeks better ties with Africa

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak begins an eight-day tour of four African states on Tuesday aimed at strengthening economic and military ties on the continent.

Mr. Mubarak, accompanied by Foreign Minister Kamel Hassan Ali and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Boutros Ghali, will first visit Zaire before going on to Kenya, Somalia and Tanzania.

Mr. Mubarak's tour comes at a time when Cairo is gradually regaining its standing in the Middle East. Last week, Egypt was invited to resume its membership at the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) from which it was suspended after signing a peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

The tour also coincides with renewed tension in Chad and reports of clashes in north-western Ethiopia between government troops and Eritrean secessionists fighting for independence of the Red Sea province of Eritrea.

Diplomatic sources here said Mr. Mubarak's talks with Zaire's President Mobutu Sese Seko and Somali leader Mohammed Siad Barre would focus mainly on military and economic co-operation.

Egypt has provided military aid to Zaire and Somalia in the past and both countries have been strong supporters of Egypt's Middle East and African policies. Somalia was one of three Arab countries which maintained relations with Egypt after Cairo signed its treaty with Israel.

The sources said Mr. Mubarak's talks in Kinshasa and Mogadishu would also touch on the Chad situation and Ethiopia.

The added that Sudan, where government troops and rebels clashed in the south in November, would also figure high on the agenda.

Egypt has a defence pact with Sudan. Egyptian Defence Minister Field Marshal Mohamed Abdel Halim Abu Ghazala left for Khartoum Sunday for military discussions there.

In Nairobi and Dar El Salam, Mr. Mubarak will hold wide-ranging talks with special emphasis on economic co-operation with Kenyan leader Daniel Arap Moi and Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere.

'Arms sales to Arab countries could trigger pre-emptive Israeli strike'

BONN (R) — A top Israeli official said in an interview published Saturday that sales of arms to Arab countries could trigger a pre-emptive strike by his country's forces.

The newspaper Die Welt quoted Yitzhak Shmuelievitz, director-general of the Israeli prime minister's office, as saying he was "disappointed and embittered" about the attitude of West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl towards Bonn's possible sale of weapons to Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Shmuelievitz, asked whether arms sales to Arab countries could place Israel in a position where it would be forced into making a pre-emptive strike against the recipients, said: "Yes, this could place us in such a situation."

Mr. Kohl has said that although

he will take Israeli concern into consideration, any decision of West German arms sales to Saudi Arabia will be made in Bonn.

The Bonn government has made it clear that Saudi Arabia has no chance of buying West Germany's Leopard-2 main battle tank, but is believed to favour the sale of defensive weapons, such as the tracked Gepard (cheetah) anti-aircraft system.

Israel opposes even the sale of defensive arms, because it believes they could be used against Israel.

The director-general recalled an interview made three years ago with the same organisation responsible for that in Saturday's Die Welt, in which he indirectly predicted a pre-emptive Israeli strike

against an Iraqi nuclear power research site.

Asked then what Israel would do if Iraq produced nuclear weapons, Mr. Shmuelievitz had said: "We would not sit here doing nothing until an atomic bomb falls on our heads."

In Saturday's interview, he said he knew nothing then of plans for a pre-emptive strike. "But a year later we bombarded the Iraqi nuclear site," he said.

Mr. Shmuelievitz added: "People must understand that when one places someone in isolation, so that he has no other choice, he must do this (attack)."

He said: "Whoever sells the Arabs weapons, knows exactly where they are going. The British and French know this very well."

Ben-Porat quits Israeli cabinet

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — In a fresh blow to Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Minister-Without-Portfolio Mordechai Ben-Porat resigned from his right-wing government, saying it was incapable of functioning properly.

Political sources said the resignation was not expected to endanger Mr. Shamir's coalition immediately but it raised new doubts about his ability to continue in office much longer.

Mr. Shamir's government weathered its latest storm last Wednesday when it defeated a parliamentary no-confidence motion by six votes. The three-man ethnic Tami Party was dissuaded from voting against the government at the last minute by the promise of more welfare payments for the poor.

In his letter of resignation, Mr.

Ben-Porat referred to rampant personal and party conflicts of interest and said: "My hopes that the government would function properly have been disappointed."

The political sources said the negotiations with Tami had caused strains in the cabinet. Tami leader Aharon Abuhazera recently served a three-month jail term for illegal use of public funds.

Deputy Prime Minister David Levy told reporters the following day the government could not keep on bowing to the demands of minor coalition partners for much longer.

Mr. Ben-Porat was elected to parliament as the second member of the late Moshe Dayan's Telem Party. He and Mr. Dayan's successor, Yigael Hurwitz, have since become separate one-man factions in the assembly. Mr. Hurwitz

abstained in last week's no-confidence vote, while Mr. Ben-Porat voted with the government.

Mr. Ben-Porat told Israel Radio Sunday he would remain a member of the coalition but would support any initiative to dissolve parliament and hold early elections since a narrow-based government could not solve Israel's economic and security problems.

The opposition Labour Party is considering such an initiative. The next elections are scheduled for November 1985.

Recent public opinion surveys have put Labour well ahead of Mr. Shamir's Likud Party. One poll last week gave it the support of 51.5 per cent of the electorate against the Likud's 23.5 per cent, a record margin between the two major parties since such polls began in Israel.

Morocco, Libya sign co-operation pact

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) — Libya and Morocco on Saturday issued a statement agreeing to greater co-operation in economic and social fields, the official news agency JANA reported.

Moroccan officials could not immediately be reached for comment on the report.

The communique, issued at the end of a meeting between Moroccan and Libyan officials, calls for lowered tariffs on goods traded between the two countries and technical co-operation in agricultural and industrial development projects. JANA said.

channels of telephone and tele communications and joint educational, tourist and cultural projects, the agency said.

Morocco and Libya have recently made moves to improve bilateral relations and end 13 years of tension.

Prince Saud, Klibi hold talks

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia's Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal had a one-hour meeting Saturday with Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi in Jeddah, the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said.

The agency quoted Mr. Klibi as saying after the meeting he found Saudi Arabia determined to "continue efforts to prepare the atmosphere in the Arab World for making the next Arab summit a success."

He said his talks had centred on the latest developments in the region and preparations for the summit, due to be held in Riyadh on March 31 to discuss the Middle East situation.

British Air Force to hold exercises in Oman

BAHRAIN (R) — Four British Royal Air Force Tornado planes arrived in Oman Saturday for joint exercises with the Omani Air Force, the official Oman News Agency reported.

A British embassy source in Muscat said the planes were in Oman on a routine deployment as part of a series of joint exercises.

Iraq hands over Iranian prisoners

ANKARA (R) — Iraq handed over 190 Iranian prisoners to the International Red Cross at Ankara Airport Sunday and an Iranian jet arrived to fly them home, officials said.

A spokesman for the Iraqi embassy in Ankara told Reuters the Iranian plane arrived empty and that no Iraqi prisoners were being exchanged for those released by Baghdad.

Iraqi officials completed the handover of the Iranian prisoners to the Red Cross by mid-afternoon after an Iraqi Airlines jet flew them in from Baghdad Sunday morning, the spokesman, Mr. Yunus Vahiq Mohammad,

said. Diplomatic sources said they expected the freed prisoners to be flown to Tehran later Sunday.

The two planes were parked in an isolated spot away from the main airport concourse while the handover took place, eyewitnesses said.

In Baghdad, Iraqi newspapers quoted a Foreign Ministry spokesman as saying the move was unilateral and without reciprocation.

Mr. Mohammad said the 190 Iranians were mostly military personnel and included five children aged between 10 and 14 years, while others were up to 80 years

old. But a statement issued by the Iranian embassy in Ankara said most of the released captives were civilians kept as prisoners of war in violation of International Laws.

A Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman said Iran and Iraq, at war for 41 months, had asked Ankara not to publicise the case. Armed police stopped journalists entering the airport and Turkey's state media did not mention the matter.

Last May, Iran and Iraq each swapped 32 prisoners at Ankara Airport. Turkey has remained neutral in the war between its two southeastern neighbours.

Oman accuses Iran of instigating sabotage

KUWAIT (AP) — A senior official of the Oman government was quoted Sunday as accusing Iran of escalating terror and sabotage in the Gulf region.

Undersecretary of State for Foreign Affairs Saif Ibn Ahmad Al Battashi, told the independent newspaper Al Anbass that the Iranian regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini was behind the recent spate of bomb blasts in Kuwait.

"There are links between the Kuwait blasts, the incidents of the Grand Mosque (Mecca) in 1980, the Bahrain coup attempt and the incidents of Qatar," Al Battashi

told the paper in an interview. He was referring to the Dec. 12 bomb attacks on the U.S. and French embassies in Kuwait, where saboteurs also blasted four local targets, Mr. Al Battashi also referred to the Mecca siege by a group of fanatics who sought unsuccessfully to undermine the Saudi Arabian monarchy.

Mr. Al Battashi mentioned the Bahrain coup attempt two years ago by a group of young men allegedly incited by Tehran, and the recent plot by unidentified religious elements to blow up the Sheraton Hotel in Qatar and kill all kings and sheikhs of the six-

nation Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) during their summit conference sessions last November. The Qatar conspiracy was uncovered and all alleged suspects were rounded up, according to official reports.

Mr. Al Battashi told Al Anbass that Iran's threat to block navigation in the strategic Hormuz Strait has been "counterproductive, and Iran now is resorting to means of undermining internal stability in the GCC countries."

The GCC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Qatar and Oman.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

17:30... Koran
17:45... Cartoons
18:05... Children's Programme
18:20... Documentaries
18:30... News Bulletin
18:35... Life and Science Programme
18:40... News in Arabic
18:45... Arabic Comedy
18:50... Local Shows
18:55... Arabic Variety Programme
19:00... News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00... French Programme
18:05... News in French
18:30... News in Hebrew
18:35... Comedy: Buffalo Bill
18:40... Towards 2001
19:00... Documentary: Beyond Difference
19:05... News in English
19:10... Hart to Hart

BBC WORLD SERVICE
634, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 The Painter of Signs 06:45 Letter from London 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:00 News Bulletin 07:05 News Summary 07:10 Alexs Korners Rhythm and Blues 07:15 Personal Impact 07:20 Newsdesk 07:25 Just a Minute 07:30 World News 07:35 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 07:40 World News 07:45 World News 07:50 World News 07:55 World News 08:00 World News 08:05 World News 08:10 World News 08:15 World News 08:20 World News 08:25 World News 08:30 World News 08:35 World News 08:40 World News 08:45 World News 08:50 World News 08:55 World News 09:00 World News 09:05 World News 09:10 World News 09:15 World News 09:20 World News 09:25 World News 09:30 World News 09:35 World News 09:40 World News 09:45 World News 09:50 World News 09:55 World News 10:00 World News 10:05 World News 10:10 World News 10:15 World News 10:20 World News 10:25 World News 10:30 World News 10:35 World News 10:40 World News 10:45 World News 10:50 World News 10:55 World News 11:00 World News 11:05 World 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World News 45:2

Finnish envoy, Masri discuss Mideast

AMMAN (J.T.) — The secretary-general of the Finnish foreign ministry, Klaus Tornudd, Sunday held talks with Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri on Middle East affairs and Lebanon.

Mr. Tornudd, who arrived here Saturday evening in the course of an Arab tour, voiced his country's support for the settlement of the Middle East issue on the basis of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and stressed the need to recognise the Palestinian people's right to self-determination in Palestine.

Mr. Tornudd also voiced his country's demand for a speedy withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon. Finland criticises Israel's policy in the occupied West Bank and considers that policy as further complicating the Middle East problem. Mr. Tornudd said at the meeting.

For his part, Mr. Masri explained Jordan's position vis-a-vis Lebanon and the Middle East issue, and spoke about Israel's arbitrary measures in the occupied Golan Heights, the Gaza Strip and

the West Bank, and pointed out Israel's obstacles that impede peace. Mr. Masri also praised Finland for understanding Arab causes and stressed the role that Europe can play in helping to achieve a just and durable peace in the Middle East. Earlier, Mr. Tornudd met the foreign ministry's secretary-general, Walid Tash, to discuss peace prospects in the region and Europe's role.

Hungary seeks to boost presence in telecom area

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Communications and the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) board chairman, Dr. Mohammad Al Zaben, reviewed with Hungarian Charge d'Affaires in Amman, Gyorgy Paller means to promote the existing co-operation between Jordan and Hungary in the postal and telecommunications fields including the development of technical co-operation.

Mr. Paller expressed his country's willingness to bolster co-

operation with Jordan in these fields.

Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hamdullah Al Nabulsi also received Mr. Paller in his office Sunday.

During the meeting, they discussed ways of expanding the scope of co-operation in public sewerage projects in municipalities from that carried out by a Hungarian company on the Jerash sewerage project.



Engineering Association President Laith Shbeilat gives an interview Sunday to a reporter from the Jordanian news agency (Petra photo)

Engineers association head urges expansion of scientific research

AMMAN (Petra) — President of the Jordanian Engineers Association (JEA) Laith Shbeilat Sunday called on the government to increase its spending on developing scientific research. He also urged owners of businesses and major industries to rely more fully on research centres at the University of Jordan and the Royal Scientific Society (RSS).

In an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Shbeilat said his association would be willing to contribute financially towards covering the cost of research projects that will benefit the country.

The research centres at the RSS and the University of Jordan are at present undertaking research in various scientific fields but they are called on to intensify and expand these scientific studies, Mr. Shbeilat said.

He said that development and research are basic elements for a successful industry. Industry should

therefore be supported by scientific research in order to achieve success.

At present, the JEA is trying to find jobs for local unemployed engineers and maintains contacts with businesses and factories to achieve that end, Mr. Shbeilat said.

But, he said, the labour market in Jordan is passing through a difficult stage in view of the world economic recession and due to the increase in the number of young people studying engineering without any proper career guidance.

Also, the return of expatriate engineers to Jordan due to the difficult economic situation in countries where they used to work has worsened the situation, Mr. Shbeilat said.

According to Mr. Shbeilat, the JEA registered 1,800 new engineers last year, and the total number of registered engineers now stands at 11,527.

Parliament to hear government policy statement today

AMMAN (Petra) — The Lower House of Parliament will hold a meeting Monday under the chairmanship of its speaker Akef Al Fayed. The house members will hear the government's policy statement which will be read out by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat.

Meanwhile, Mr. 'Obeidat Sunday announced officially that by-elections for the Lower House of Parliament in the East Bank will be held on March 12.

He also issued two official communiques in which he named the constituencies where elections will be held and the time during which elections will take place as well as the arrangements for these elections.

In the communiques, the prime minister requested all officials to exert maximum efforts in co-operating with provincial governors to make the election process a success.

According to the communiques, the by-elections will be held between seven o'clock in the morning and seven o'clock in the evening on March 12.

The Lower House had earlier notified the government about the eight vacant seats in the East Bank constituencies of Amman, Karak, Tafleh, Salt and Irbid.

Provincial governors Sunday continued their inspections of centres in their areas where registration for the elections is taking place.

According to Ministry of Interior Under-Secretary Ahmad Al Aqileh, people who have reached 20 years of age can vote in the by-elections while only those who have reached the age of 30 can be nominated as candidates.

According to Amman Governor Yahya Al Shoush, women too can run in the elections.

India's smoking round-the-world ambassador pedals into Jordan

By Afifah A. Kaloti
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A sense of adventure, a keen interest in meeting new people and a thirst to find out about the cultural and social attitudes of people around the globe motivated an Indian youth to embark upon a world tour by bicycle.

Now, after one year and 12,000 kilometres, J. Satish, has arrived in Jordan.

The 24-year-old, who is an automobile valves mechanic by profession, describes himself as India's ambassador of goodwill "representing my country in every place I go by spreading our culture to all the people I meet."

Mr. Satish told the Jordan Times that he left his home in Bangalore on Jan. 1, 1981 planning to cover a distance of 150,000 km as well as planning to see the 1984 Olympic Games to be held in July in Los Angeles.

Another aim of Satish's tour around the world is to study the activities of young people in all the countries he visits and "to infuse the spirit of adventure in youngsters," he said.

Mr. Satish, who is heading next week up to Syria, said that he covered 6,000 km in crossing India and the same distance before reaching Jordan via South Yemen, North Yemen, Djibouti and Saudi Arabia.

Asked about the difficulties he has faced so far during his travels, Mr. Satish said that he had faced three major ones.

Attacked by elephant

The first, he said, was going up a steep incline which lasted for a distance of 23 km through one of the jungles of India where he was attacked by an elephant.

"Luckily my bicycle has mechanical gears so I changed fast and cycled off back down the steep slope."

While crossing the desert in South Yemen Mr. Satish was stopped by bandits. "After making me stop, I was hit in the face and they took my camera."

However, he said, they left the 15 dinar I had, after I had told them about my plans and begged



J. Satish

them to leave me something. "I also faced the toughest sandstorm in Saudi Arabia which affected my cycling and meant that I had to stay one night in the desert," Mr. Satish said.

Asked about how he is financing his trip, he said that he was allowed to take \$500 out of India.

"In every country I visit, I meet officials and people who always help me financially and enable me to resume my trip."

On the effect of the climatic changes from one country to another on his health, Mr. Satish said that he had not suffered from any diseases or ill health for "I planned my trip in accordance with climatic conditions in every country." Asked how he could manage to store food when cycling such long distances, Mr. Satish said he did not have to keep food for more than a few days for "I used to go through many villages the inhabitants of which would always provide me with food."

Mr. Satish said that he carries two bags everywhere, one of which is a water-proof bag tied to his bicycle and the other a backpack.

He said he keeps his clothes, maintenance equipment and first aid kit in his water-proof bag.

During the interview, I noticed Mr. Satish smoking and I asked whether the effects of the cigarettes harm his cycling ability.

Only companion

He replied that it is not like a

bicycle race and hence he can take a rest every 150 km. "The cigarette is my only companion on such a long tour," he added.

Mr. Satish said that during his stay in Jordan he will visit Petra, the Dead Sea, the Jordan Valley, Jerash and Ajloun.

"When the tour is over, I am determined to write a book on all my experiences as well as on all the countries I have visited," he said.

In conclusion, Mr. Satish expressed his gratefulness to the Amra Hotel for "they have given me roof and food free of charge."

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The baffling equation

ISRAEL'S continued occupation of South Lebanon, its repressive and arbitrary measures against Palestinians under occupation and the ongoing Israeli drive to colonise the West Bank and Gaza should have all been the subject of U.S. pressure against the Zionist state, if Washington was indeed interested in bringing about a lasting settlement in the Middle East.

In his press conference on Saturday, His Majesty King Hussein said he would like to see this pressure applied, because it is in the end in Israel's best interest to heed the voice of peace instead of perpetuating its bitter conflict with the Arabs all the time.

It has always been imperative for the U.S. to halt Israel's aggressive policies in the occupied Arab territories, whether in Lebanon or in the West Bank and Gaza. This need has been particularly urgent because the pronounced Israeli plans are designed to abort all peace efforts in the area; and the U.S. administration should realise that it could not possibly afford to remain impasse with regard to this dangerous situation, and especially now that the majority of Arabs are ready to throw their weight behind every peace move that would produce results.

Needless to say that continued and generous American aid to Israel gives that state its backbone and enables it to carry on with its settlement drive in the occupied territories. So, unless Washington takes the necessary measures to stop the Likud's colonisation programme, it will be assuming the role of that superpower which speaks for peace on the one hand while contradicting what it preaches on the other.

This, in our view, is the most dangerous impediment to peace efforts. American and otherwise; and such American attitude as we are witnessing now can only finish off what is left of American credibility in the Middle East.

The Arabs are not the only party that is responsible for making peace efforts succeed. But if the Israelis do not care for peace, whose responsibility is it then to warn them of the consequences?

The Americans say time and again that peace and stability in this area serves their best interests more than everything else; and, considering the Lebanon experience, they can only be right in their analysis. The question that arises, however, is: Why are the Americans going against their own interests, despite their friends' repeated gestures and warnings?

The question is really for everybody to ponder and analyse.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: King clarifies policy

IN HIS press conference Saturday King Hussein clarified a number of points that indeed threw more light on the current developments and Jordanian policies in the region. With reference to the return of parliamentary life, King Hussein said that it was purely a national decision and came to satisfy Jordanians' desire for democratic rule. This move he said had no other motive whatsoever.

On resuming the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, King Hussein said that it was aimed at arriving at a formula acceptable to both sides so as the peace process can continue or joint action can be taken to save Arab land and to rescue the Arab population in the occupied Arab territories. King Hussein also stressed the point that Arab meetings should take decisions by adopting the opinion of the majority rather than waiting to achieve unanimity especially about crucial subjects pertaining to higher national interests.

King Hussein, who emphasised the country's endeavours to develop its natural and human resources, said that Israel had been accusing Jordan of forming a rapid deployment force for reasons serving its own goals. He stressed that the Jordanian armed forces will remain true to the Arab principles and will serve Arab causes everywhere.

Al Dustour: Closer links essential

A JORDANIAN-Palestinian formula for settling the Palestine problems is bound to have more weight on the international level and should gain more support from international organisations and European nations. Therefore Jordan is endeavouring to reach that formula through close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) which it regards as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Once this formula is achieved each side will have to play an important role in liberating the lands and people now under Israeli rule. A joint formula will also gain support from Arab countries and will enhance the steadfastness of the Arab inhabitants in the occupied regions.

In acting with this spirit, and towards achieving these goals, Jordan is pursuing the goal of the unity between the East and West Banks which was established more than 30 years ago. It is also working in the spirit of the principles laid down by the Great Arab Revolt earlier this century, which sought to achieve freedom, unity and progress for all Arabs. Therefore, intensification of contacts between the Jordanians and Palestinians is a must, and should lead to a better position for the Arabs in general and the people on both banks of the River Jordan in particular.

Sawt Al Shaab: Laying the foundations

IT WAS natural for King Hussein to call for joint Jordanian-Palestinian moves in view of the absence of a pan-Arab political offensive to settle the Middle East question. It was also natural to call for the Jordanian-Palestinian house to be put in order so that it can serve as a good example to all Arabs and pave the way for a greater consensus among Arab leaders particularly where the Palestinian rights are concerned.

In his press conference Saturday, King Hussein made it clear that Jordanian-Palestinian moves were aimed at implementing U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 which secure an Israeli withdrawal from Arab territories and the rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland. Once our house is put in order we can start working hand in hand towards achieving our goals. King Hussein pointed out that unless we act now all opportunities will be lost and the Palestine problem will be liquidated for ever.

Andropov rules out return to Geneva, speaks soft

By Charles Bremner
Reuters

MOSCOW — Soviet leader Yuri Andropov has thrown back President Reagan's call for a return to nuclear arms talks but indicated that the Kremlin was ready to cool the rhetoric in its dialogue with Washington.

Mr. Andropov responded directly to an appeal by Mr. Reagan for better relations in an interview published Wednesday by Pravda, a week after the superpowers renewed high-level contacts at a disarmament conference in Stockholm.

The Soviet president, absent from public view for five months, said Mr. Reagan's call on Jan. 16 for dialogue "does not contain a single new idea" and repeated

demands for withdrawal of U.S. missiles from Europe as a condition for fresh talks.

Moscow halted Geneva negotiations on intermediate (INF) and long-range missiles when U.S. medium-range missile deployment in Europe began in November.

But Mr. Andropov's language marked a sharp shift from the invective of recent Soviet broadsides against Mr. Reagan, in particular a virulent anti-U.S. blast from Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko in Stockholm.

Western diplomats said they were struck by Mr. Andropov's moderate and almost conciliatory tone compared with his recent utterances, although he gave no sign of new Soviet flexibility.

"He goes through the usual litany of American sins and there's no shift in the fundamentals, but

the tone is certainly softer, far less polemical," one embassy analyst said.

Diplomats contrasted the statement, which stressed the Soviet desire for dialogue, with Mr. Andropov's bitter attack on Mr. Reagan in the aftermath of the downing of a South Korean airliner over a strategically-sensitive Soviet area by Soviet jets last September.

In that statement, read by many as Mr. Andropov's last word on the Washington administration, he said Mr. Reagan lacked elementary decency and indicated the Kremlin had given up hope of doing business with him.

The statement set the tone for a barrage of scathing Soviet commentaries leading up to the Stockholm conference, where Mr. Gromyko conferred with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz

for five hours. Diplomats said the talks, along with others Mr. Gromyko held with NATO ministers, had helped clear the air although no concrete results emerged.

Some saw Mr. Andropov's more reasonable tone as indicating the Kremlin was coming to accept there was a strong chance of Mr. Reagan being re-elected later this year and that they would have to work with him for better or worse.

But diplomats cautioned against assuming that U.S.-Soviet relations, at their most strained for decades, had turned the corner.

Moscow has devoted a major effort to promoting anti-U.S. feeling among West European public opinion as a means of trying to stall the medium-range missile deployment.

Diplomats believe the Kremlin

was concerned that it appeared to slam the door to negotiation when it left the Geneva nuclear talks.

Its recent agreement to resume the less important Vienna talks on troop reduction (VBER) could be seen as aimed at softening this impression, they said.

In his Pravda interview, Mr. Andropov listed Soviet proposals, to be put forward at Stockholm, which he said would "seriously raise the degree of trust in Europe and in the whole world."

The NATO states are sceptical that the proposals, which include pledges on non-aggression and no first use of nuclear weapons, amount to anything more than words.

Mr. Andropov also said the Soviet Union was ready to "solve the problem of nuclear arms in Europe" but Washington and the NATO states would have to pull out the new missiles.

It is by practical deeds that we will judge whether the United States has serious intentions to conduct a dialogue with us," he said.

Diplomats said this left the Soviet and NATO positions over European-based nuclear arms, the main issue behind the current East-West tension, as far apart as ever.

Even with both Mr. Reagan and Mr. Andropov declaring their moderation, it would take months at least before some new formula could be found for restoring talks that might encompass both INF and strategic weapons, the diplomats said.

Another delaying factor was likely to be the U.S. elections in November, they said, adding that the USSR would be reluctant to present Mr. Reagan with anything that could boost his chances at winning another term.

After using all the force needed, Rabat is in control

By Michael Goldsmith
Associated Press

RABAT — Despite a bloody wave of riots that left scores of Moroccans dead this month, King Hassan II remains firmly in control — at least in the foreseeable future — of his tradition-bound nation at the western extremity of the Arab World.

King Hassan, 54, is said to have ordered his troops to "use all the force needed" to control rampaging and looting crowds demonstrating in Nador, Tetouan and other northern cities against rumoured plans to raise food prices.

The army took King Hassan at his word and repeatedly fired into the crowds. Estimates of those killed ranged from 75 to 200. An exile leftist opposition movement claimed more than 400 died. The government acknowledged no deaths at all.

In a nationwide broadcast, the king said he never intended to impose higher prices. It was clear, however, that calm was restored

more by force of arms than by persuasion.

The riots showed that beneath Morocco's apparent tranquility there was widespread discontent, particularly among impoverished city dwellers, and some were on the verge of insurrection.

But the disturbances also gave the rioters, and King Hassan's enemies, a clear demonstration of the loyalty of his 140,000-strong army and police. And they indicated that in the absence of a rebellion in the armed forces, which seems unlikely, there is no organised group able to challenge his generally benign but authoritarian rule.

In theory, Morocco is one of the few genuine democracies in Africa and the Arab World. Political parties ranging from the ultra-nationalist Istiqlal (Independence) Party to the Socialist Union of Popular Forces (USFP) have freedom of expression and their leaders are ministers without portfolio in King Hassan's government.

Nationwide parliamentary elections are scheduled in March.

There is a standby agreement allowing American troops to use Moroccan military bases in certain emergencies. And strategists of the North Atlantic Alliance regard Morocco as a reliable guardian of the southern shores of the Straits of Gibraltar and the southern approaches to Europe.

This solid pro-Western posture has brought King Hassan the open hatred of Iranian-influenced Islamic fundamentalists and Communist-influenced leftist revolutionaries. Both extremist groups are barred from political activity and diplomatic observers believe they occupy only a small part of the political spectrum. Many live in exile in France and other European countries.

King Hassan blamed a random collusion of the fundamentalists and leftists with the Israeli secret service, Mossad, for instigating the riots.

Whatever role such secret agitators may have played, the causes of discontent run deeper. According to a World Bank study,



King Hassan II of Morocco

nearly 40 percent of Morocco's 20 million inhabitants live close to the bank's recognised level of absolute poverty.

The bulk of King Hassan's army is bogged down in an eight-year old guerrilla war in the Sahara with the Algerian-backed Polisario independence movement.

Equipped with ultra-modern American and French weaponry, the army is holding its own against the guerrillas. But the war is costing an estimated \$1.5 million a day, and reports of casualties among the drafted troops are beginning to affect civilian morale.

More than a million Moroccans live and work in France and other West European countries. Remittances to their families exceeded \$1.5 billion per year. The foreign debt exceeds \$10 billion — three times the total income from exports, tourists and remittances of Moroccan workers in June.

King Hassan claims descent from Prophet Muhammad and bears the ancient title "commander of the faithful." He is widely revered as the country's religious leader. This did not prevent three military plots against his rule in the past 12 years. A year ago, Ahmed Oulmi, his security chief and most trusted army commander, was killed in an accident that has never been explained.

Moroccans generally say King Hassan has inexhaustible "baraka" (good luck). Many cited as an example the willingness of his soldiers to shoot to kill at riotous but unarmed civilians.

But for the first time since King Hassan came to the throne 23 years ago, some Moroccans are openly saying his baraka may not last for ever.

Israel's foreign debt per head amounts to seven times that of Brazil

Should the transfusion stop, Israel would have to play it cool

Israel is in the midst of its worst economic crisis since its foundation in 1948, Anatole Kaletsky reports.

TEL AVIV — Throughout history mighty military nations have been subdued as frequently by their own economic failure as by their adversaries' superior forces. Israel today looks as if it could yet become such a nation.

The world's most successful military machine has always been powered by a tiny economic engine, which is as delicate as it is dynamic. Although the Israeli economy grew phenomenally in the first two decades of the state's existence, Israel could never have mustered the economic resources it needed to strengthen itself against greater Arab numbers had it not been for the assistance of Jews abroad and of reparation payments from the West German government.

But after the war of 1973 and the subsequent worldwide energy crisis, a dramatic shift in the balance between Israel's ambitions and its economic achievements took place. The prestige of its armed forces increased more rapidly than ever and Israeli living standards continued to rise, but the economy stalled.

While the defence budget expanded from 17 per cent to nearly 30 per cent of gross national product, economic growth came almost to a standstill, energy costs soared, aid from foreign Jewry and the Germans reached a plateau and Israel began to spin faster and faster round a vicious circle of hyperinflation and mounting foreign debt.

1,000 per cent inflation

Only last year, however, did most Israelis start really to worry about the fragile economic foundations on which their security and prosperity were based. Their government was even slower to see the truth. It took a financial collapse in October — sending inflation briefly into the 1,000 per cent stratosphere, which wiped out a third of many Israelis' savings and which is still reverberating in daily strikes and political manoeuvres — to force a definitive change of economic course.

More significantly, it took the retirement of Menachem Begin as prime minister last summer to get the country to face something which had been impossible to acknowledge under the spell of Mr. Begin's unbending nationalism and charismatic pride — the future of Israel depends entirely on the financial favour shown it by the U.S.

If and when the U.S. government comes to recognise this fact, it would have an unprecedented opportunity to influence Israel by purely economic means, without undermining its military commitment to supply the country with whatever arms or help it needs to guarantee military superiority over the Arabs.

Indeed, it might not even require economic pressure from the U.S. to steer Israel away from some of Mr. Begin's unyielding foreign and military policies. The interaction between Mr. Begin's economic short-sightedness and the Third World debt crisis has made Israel newly vulnerable to any loss of confidence among commercial creditors. Thus the U.S. might only have to refrain from ever-greater generosity in order to make the Israelis reconsider their priorities — and in particular to seize any chance of a modus vivendi with their Arab neighbours.

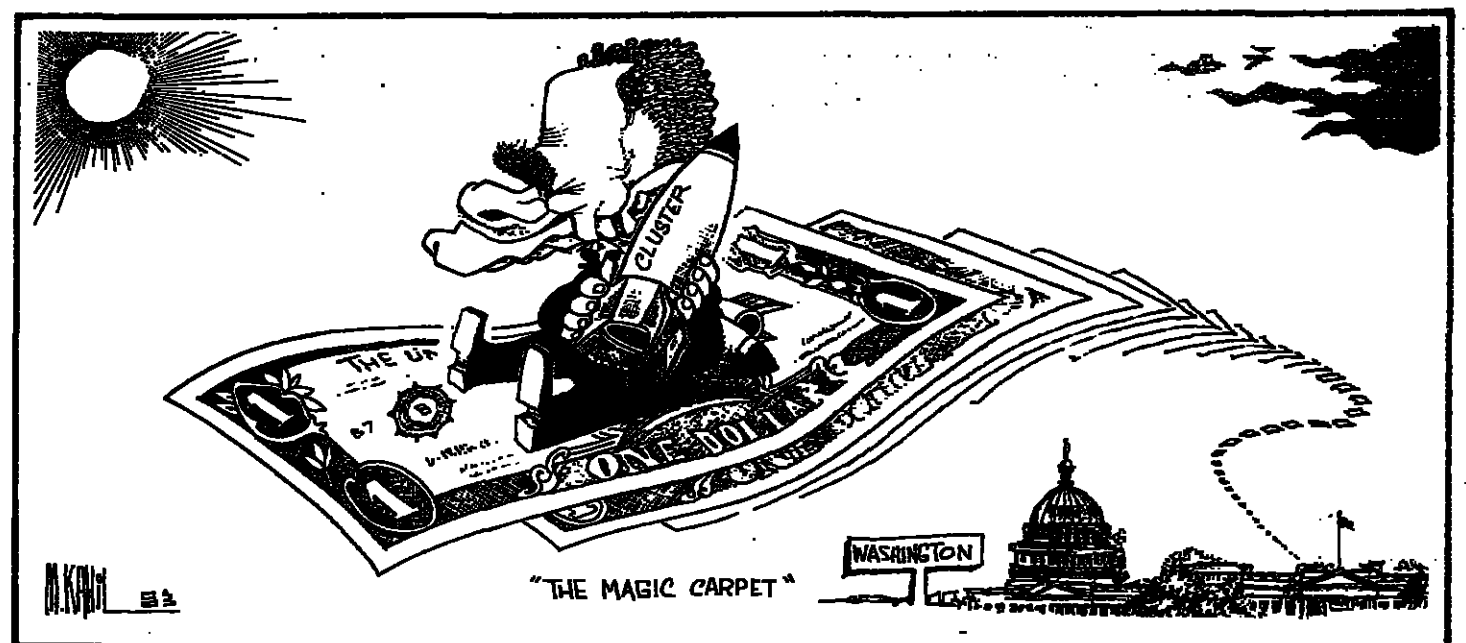
Israel's new prime minister, Itzhak Shamir, is as vehement as Mr. Begin in his rejection of the occasional U.S. requests for conciliatory gestures towards moderate Arabs. But unlike Mr. Begin, he appears to have recognised that Israel's growing economic dependence could one day entail political costs. This is why he has appointed new finance minister, Yigal Cohen-Orad, to make the Israeli economy more self-sufficient, before the U.S. "asks us to do them a favour in return," as Mr. Cohen-Orad discreetly concedes. But time, politics and basic economic reality are all against the new team's efforts. It would take a profound alteration of political priorities or a sheer economic miracle to enable Israel truly to stand on its own feet.

The economic dimensions of the corner in which Israel is now trapped are simply overwhelming. On one side there is endemic inflation. This soared from the customary level of 100-150 per cent, with which Israel has learnt to live over the past five years, to an annual rate of nearly 1,000 per cent in October. The decline to 350 per cent in the two months (to December) since then is regarded as a "moderation" but possibly only a temporary one.

For Israel's chronic inability to control inflation is a symptom of an even more daunting problem: the country's inherent inability to live within its own resources. The other side of this continuous imbalance has been the relentless climb of foreign debt.

World-record debt

The magnitude of Israel's debt and dependency is at the heart of its present economic crisis and of



the political pressures which it may one day face. It now owes foreigners between \$21 billion and \$23 billion (depending on the treatment of the overseas assets of Israeli banks). This amounts to some \$5,500 for every man, woman and child, or roughly seven times Brazil's indebtedness per head (or four times, relative to GNP).

But the raw debt statistics give only a blurred picture of Israel's need for external support. Israelis argue that their debts are less oppressive than other developing nations' because the great bulk of the loans come from the U.S. government and world Jewry, rather than international banks. Over 80 per cent of Israel's net debt is long or medium-term, often at low fixed interest rates.

In fact, the country's whole short-term debt can be accounted for by deposits placed in Israeli banks by foreign individuals (\$6.5 billion in 1982). In the past few years Israel has transformed itself quietly but effectively into a high-interest, no-questions-asked, tax haven in which foreign tourists can combine financial self-interest with an enjoyable holiday and a gesture of support for the Jewish state.

Unfortunately, there is another side to the generosity which Israel enjoys from the outside world — it disguises a degree of economic dependence which goes far beyond the figures of the country's debt.

Israel receives in straight grants from the outside world even more than it borrows. Without these grants of between \$2.5 billion and \$3 billion a year, the foreign debt would long since have become unmanageable. It is only because of these "unilateral transfers," roughly half of which come from the U.S. government, that Israel

can run a current account deficit which reached a record level of \$5.1 billion, or nearly 25 per cent of GNP, last year. Such deficits put anything seen in Brazil, Chile or Mexico in the shade.

The grants make the Israelis the most heavily-subsidised people on earth. Indeed the level of "unilateral transfers" per Israeli is higher than the total income of the people in half the world's developing countries — per capita grants to Israel are about three times India's total income per head, for example.

2.25b U.S. aid

From the U.S. perspective, the level of aid to Israel is even more disproportionate — this one tiny country now absorbs between one-quarter and one-third of the U.S. government's entire foreign aid (\$2.25 billion in grants and loans to Israel in 1982 out of \$8.3 billion of aid for the world as a whole).

At present neither the U.S. government nor the American public is particularly startled by such juxtapositions. Americans have an affection and loyalty towards Israel which go far beyond the famous "Jewish lobby" and encompass an overwhelming majority of non-Jewish Americans. But they have a further reason for helping Israel. Their governments, and the Reagan administration in particular, have traditionally regarded such aid as a payment for Israel's highly efficient defence of Western interests in the Middle East — a point made explicitly at length in a recent audit of aid to Israel by the U.S. Comptroller-General.

From this point of view, the U.S. "can buy more defence for every dollar they invest in Israel

than in any other way — and all without risking one American life," as one leading labour politician points out.

Thus, in the view of Mr. Cohen-Orad and the Shamir government what has precipitated the current crisis is not the inherent unsustainability of Israel's defence burden but the growth of a massive civilian trade deficit, on top of the military one, over the past five years.

It is only the \$2 billion of this civilian deficit, beyond the \$1.5-2 billion for defence and the \$1-1.5 billion for interest payments, which the government is now determined to eliminate, since it believes that the \$3 billion required for military and interest payments can continue being financed through grants, without pushing the country further into debt.

The effort to halve the civilian deficit to around \$1 billion this year and eliminate it altogether by 1987 accounts for much of the political and economic disruption in Israel today. For politically the deficits are the legacy of Mr. Begin's open-handed policies on defence, public spending, consumer subsidies and tax cuts, which allowed Israel's consumption to rise by 33 per cent per head between 1973 and 1983, while the GNP grew by only six per cent.

Less social spending

Economically, the deficits had a further, temporarily soothing, function. They were the consequence of a bold, but ultimately ineffectual, attempt by the former finance minister, Yoram Aridor, to tame Israel's inflation by maintaining an overvalued shekel. Mr. Aridor's experiment col-

lapsed last October in a bout of speculation against the shekel and against the shares of Israeli banks on the Tel Aviv stock exchange. The devaluation of nearly 30 per cent which followed fed immediately through into prices.

The crisis brought some benefits for government policy. The devaluation helped exports and slowed imports, while the collapse of the stock market wiped out a large proportion of Israel's spending power and hence their appetite for foreign goods. Even more importantly, the crisis prepared the public to "take some blows" economically, as several Israelis put it.

But the toughest questions about Israel's future viability still need to be answered. Will Mr. Shamir be able to forge a political consensus for the drastic cuts in social spending which he needs, when the opposition Labour Party is offering to cut spending on arms, on Lebanon and on the West Bank settlements instead?

Will banks and other foreign creditors give Mr. Cohen-Orad even the one or two which he needs to wear Israel away from any further commercial borrowing?

Will "Washington continue to keep Israel afloat by giving the right political signals to the banking system," in the words of one top Israeli economist?

Above all, will the U.S. continue to regard Israel as a "strategic asset" irrespective of its behaviour towards its neighbours, or will it demand a political price for economic support?

The political map of the Middle East could change dramatically one day if the answer to any of these questions turns out to be "no". — Financial Times news feature

مركز الأمل

Hurricanes back to normal after two-year break

By Joy Aschenbach

WASHINGTON — Starting with Alicia's billion-dollar fury, this hurricane season may pack the wallop that's earned these storms their reputation as the most destructive on Earth.

When the first hurricane of the year slammed into Galveston and Houston in August, it ended a rare two-year calm in which no hurricanes struck the U.S. mainland. It continued a trend, begun in the 1960s, of hurricanes heading almost exclusively toward the Gulf Coast.

The two-year lull, only the third this century, may be yet another result of the disruptive weather patterns over the South Pacific that spawned El Nino, says Dr. Neil Frank, director of the National Hurricane Centre in Miami. The last two-year break, 1930-31, also occurred around the time of an El Nino.

Gulf main target

At these times warmer Pacific waters generate increased winds

in the upper atmosphere. These strong westerly winds moves into the Caribbean and Atlantic and may inhibit the formation of hurricanes, whose origins are in the eastern Atlantic.

Why the hurricanes that formed in the '60s, '70s, and early '80s have generally unleashed their ferocious force in the Gulf of Mexico is a puzzle to scientists. The century's two worst storms in terms of death or destruction were both aimed at the Gulf.

The No. 1 killer was the 1900 hurricane that killed 6,000 people in Galveston. Hurricane Frederic, which roared ashore at Mobile, Ala., in 1979, damaged \$2.3 billion worth of property.

"No one has come up with an answer, beyond saying that the steering patterns of hurricanes are based on the global patterns of winds and pressures. It's like trying to determine the course of a leaf on a giant river," says Gilbert Clark, a forecaster at the hurricane centre.

For all its monstrous power, a hurricane cannot control its own direction — and people cannot

adequately forecast it. Even with satellites and computers, the best that scientists can provide is a 12-hour daylight warning period. In some places like Galveston, where bridges are the only routes of escape, more than double that time would be needed to evacuate the region.

An uncertain science

Hurricanes begin predictably enough from June through November as mild disturbances known as tropical waves, usually coming off the Cape Verde Islands near Africa. But scientists haven't figured out why some of these tropical waves end up as hurricanes and others do not. It depends on the right blend of several key ingredients: proper water temperature, warm moist air, and a good circulation system that lets air flow in at the bottom and up and out at the top — like smoke up a chimney.

Essentially troughs of low pressure in the atmosphere, the tropical waves travel across the ocean, carried along by prevailing

air currents, generally easterly trade winds. Well supplied with heat and moisture from the warm tropical waters, air converges upon these low pressure troughs.

As it flows in, the air has nowhere to go but up. As it rises it cools, condenses into clouds, and brings rain to areas it passes.

Ninety per cent of the time, the air waves move west into the Pacific without further development. But, if conditions are right, the storm begins to build and the clouds expand, releasing latent heat and creating a centre of low pressure at the ocean surface. Then, the air rushes in with ever-increasing speed to equalise the pressure.

The characteristic spiraling of the winds is due to the spin of the Earth. In the Northern Hemisphere, they swirl in a counter-clockwise direction. As these winds bear down on the low pressure cell, they also rise, deepening the cell until the winds spiral in with enough force — at least 39 mph — to be classified as a tropical storm.

At this point the disturbance, by now over the western Atlantic or Gulf, is given a name — alternately male and female. (The all-female name tradition was abandoned in 1979 after women's groups protested.)

Winds lift ocean

When winds reach at least 74 mph, the storm is officially a hurricane. As big as 500 miles or more in diameter and almost eight miles high, hurricanes can produce winds of up to 200 mph. The most violent surround the relatively calm "eye" of the storm. These winds and the low pressure in the eye can join forces to swell coastal waters as high as 25 feet above normal tide. Drowning is the cause of most hurricane deaths.

Over land or cooler northern waters, hurricanes run out of steam and break up. But it is over land that they also do their worst

damage.

In all, hurricanes have killed more than 13,000 people in the United States in this century and have destroyed more than \$13 billion worth of property. Some of the worst since the 1900 Galveston storm:

— 1928, Lake Okeechobee, Florida, 1,836 deaths.

— 1938, New York and New England, 600 deaths.

— 1969, Mississippi to Virginia, Hurricane Camille, 256 deaths and \$1.4 billion in damage.

— 1972, Florida to New York, Hurricane Agnes, 122 deaths and \$2.1 billion in damage.

— 1979, Mississippi and Alabama, Hurricane Frederic, \$2.3 billion in damage, the costliest on record.

In 1980, Hurricane Allen, the most powerful Caribbean storm ever recorded, devastated Haiti, but lost strength as it reached the Texas coast. — National Geographic feature.

Randa Habib's Corner

Women and elections

IN AMMAN everybody is talking about the upcoming elections. One must say that, since no elections have taken place in Jordan for 17 years, for many people this will be the first experience.

Women are the big stars of the forthcoming elections because they have the right to vote. However, there are still traces of male chauvinism in the country. The inhabitants of a village in the Ghor "Al Manshieh" who have decided that their women would not vote.

Those gentlemen consider that the women of Al Manshieh are not yet quite mature to choose those to be elected for the parliament, and hence female emancipation would have to wait in the Ghor.

There is also the question of candidates whose photos as well as their promises are flourishing in the papers. Moreover, in the Amman area there is only one seat vacant and already more than 10 candidates have started their electoral campaign. If you are a Jordanian over 20 years of age, you should expect them to visit you at any time. Listen to them, promise you beautiful things, a better future and big achievements. They are full of energy and good will. The only problem for you would perhaps be to choose the best amongst the best, an issue which you might have to be confronted with soon.

Obsession with death haunts Dali

By Brian Mooney

Reuter

PUBOL, Spain — The Cadillac with its distinctive blue Monaco registration plates is wrapped in a plastic tarpaulin in the garage at Salvador Dali's 800-year-old castle home here.

Like virtually everything else that once made up his extravagant and luxurious lifestyle, the large sedan is of no more use to the great surrealist painter who is reckoned to be among the world's wealthiest living artists.

Mr. Dali, 79, has retreated behind the walls of the hilltop castle overlooking this tiny Catalan hamlet to live out the drama of his last days as a semi-recluse.

"He has become obsessed by his own death and talks of it constantly," Robert Descharnes, a close friend of Mr. Dali, told me during a rare visit to the castle by a reporter.

An electric bell rang throughout the corridors every few minutes — a persistent reminder of Mr. Dali's presence. With evident irritation he was summoning nurses to his bedside.

Mr. Descharnes said Mr. Dali was attended round the clock by four nurses. He weighs less than 50 kilos (110 pounds), refuses to eat solid foods and sleeps little.

He usually gets up but often has to be helped to walk. He no longer goes out into the grounds. All but a few windows remain shuttered

day and night.

Mr. Descharnes denied recent newspaper reports that Mr. Dali was in fact on his death bed.

"The doctors say there is nothing intrinsically wrong with him. He is just much weaker and has a very negative approach to most things. He is a victim of deep depression," he said.

"When I try to talk to him about routine affairs, he tells me not to trouble him with derisive issues. Everything except death is derisive for Dali," he added.

Mr. Descharnes, a French art historian, is one of three friends who belong to Mr. Dali's intimate circle. The others are Spanish-lawyer Miguel Domenach and Catalan painter Antonio Pitxot.

One member of what is tightly referred to as the Dali trioka is almost always in attendance at the castle, together with the nurses and the household staff.

"He never likes us leaving," Mr. Descharnes said.

The castle presents startling contrasts in style: Between the brash showmanship that was once Mr. Dali's hallmark and the subdued evidence of his infirmity.

The main hall, one of the masterpieces at Pubol, was decorated by Mr. Dali. He has not touched the room since his wife Gala died 18 months ago. It is frozen as a shrine to earlier and happier times.

A mock altar stands at one end. On it a crucifix sheathed in

chocolate-bar silver paper, a pistol and an epee.

Chairs with elongated backs stand by another wall. They are wrapped in white linen, as if in storage or mourning.

The ceiling is frescoed, by Mr. Dali, and the entrance to his living room is signalled above a doorway by a painted cardboard figure of a woman with a face that looks like a mocking Mona Lisa.

A passage leads off into the dining room. This is spartan and simple in contrast. It is dominated by a long wooden table.

A blank canvas stands on an easel by an omega-shaped fireplace. A poster of a long-ago exhibition with Mr. Dali enveloped in his whiskers leans casually by a fender. Next to it, a wooden statue of Christ the Good Shepherd.

There is one other painting in the dining room. A new work depicting a violin which Mr. Dali confiscated from one of his nurses. Her playing became too much for him.

"He reckoned the best way to shut her up was to turn the offending instrument into a work of art," Mr. Descharnes said.

Mr. Dali managed to trace the outlines of the violin and gave instructions for the composition. The work was finished by an assistant. His latest painting, in which he worked the outlines and tones of a cracked mouth, was completed in similar fashion.

Mr. Descharnes said Mr. Dali was hardly painting at all now.

"He has lost the creative urge but he is still capable of demonstrating that he retains his creative touch," he said.

Much of Mr. Dali's life work is stacked in a studio inside the castle, waiting eventually to find a home in a foundation he is establishing at nearby Figueras, his birthplace, and watched over meanwhile by a civil guard security detachment.

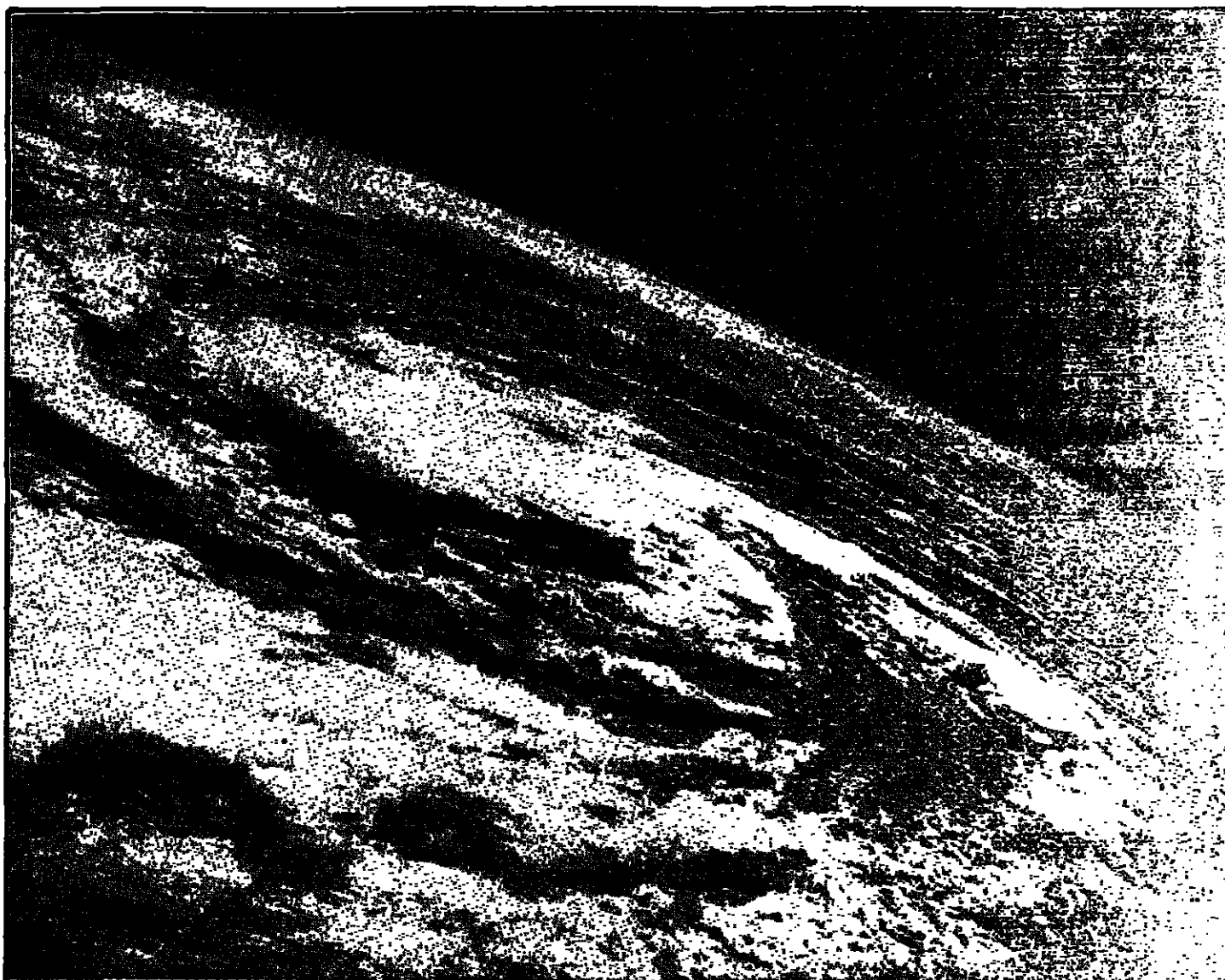
Mr. Descharnes said that demand for Mr. Dali's work was extremely high but no paintings at the castle were for sale.

"We get people calling up to say that they will be flying in tomorrow in their private jets to Girona airport with cheques for several million dollars. We have to tell them not to come," Mr. Dali earns more than enough money from his royalties.

Mr. Descharnes said the artist remains lucid despite his death obsession. He occasionally reads but his interest in the outside world is slight. As a rule he refuses to see visitors.

"His preoccupation with death is highly subjective."

"He still has immense reserves. He is like a fortress. Dali cannot be compared to a retired clerk rotting away in front of a television. Dali is different. There is something epic about his condition," Mr. Descharnes said. Something Dalian?



The swirling, turbulent nature of hurricane is clearly visible in this photograph of Hurricane Gladys as it charged across the Gulf of Mexico on its way to Florida in 1968. (NASA photo)

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Liverpool falls to Brighton in English F.A. Cup

BRIGHTON, England (R) — Mighty Liverpool were sent spinning out of the English Football Association (F.A.) Cup for the second time in successive seasons by unfashionable Brighton Sunday.

The south coast club, who beat Liverpool last year when they went all the way to the Wembley final before losing to Manchester United after a replay, won 2-1 to take a deserved place in the fifth round draw.

Now languishing in the second division, Brighton withstood almost incessant pressure in the first half before flattening Liverpool with two goals in 60 seconds from Gerry Ryan and Terry Connor. Liverpool, still without the injured Kenny Dalglish, suffered another blow when they lost captain Graeme Souness after 30 minutes.

But they gradually took control and only former England goalkeeper Joe Corrigan — who produced seven truly memorable

saves — kept alive Brighton's cup hopes.

Then, in the 58th minute, Brighton stole in front when Ryan collected a long pass from Tony Grealish, outpaced defender Mark Lawrenson and chipped the ball neatly over the diving Bruce Grobbelaar.

The faces of the Liverpool defenders were as red as their famous shirts when they promptly conceded a similar goal. Connor finishing off a Steve Penny pass.

Liverpool seldom looked like staging a fightback after that and they now join a long list of illustrious first division clubs — including Manchester United, Arsenal, Ipswich, Aston Villa and Nottingham Forest — who have made unexpected F.A. Cup exits.

Jordan will not take part in Olympic Games swimming

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian swimmers will not participate in Los Angeles Olympic Games this year, Mr. Abdullah Abu Nuwar, Chairman of the Jordanian Swimming Federation, announced Friday.

The Jordanian federation, which was requested to nominate two swimmers to represent Jordan in the Olympics, attributed not participating in the Olympics to the following:

Jordan is not qualified to participate at such a competitive standard. International experience for our swimmers is almost non-existent. Thus the federation would save the money which was allocated to despatch the swimmers to the game and transfer the funds for other uses by the federation.

Among the other decisions taken at the federation's last session was the formation of a technical committee headed by Mr. Fadi Ghandour as chairman and Mr. Inad Tabba'a, Samir Kildaneh and Hind Batayneh as members. Also decided at the meeting was to hold the Winter Open Swimming Championship at the Hussein Youth City in April and asking those wishing to participate in this championship to register their names at the federation headquarters to enable them to use the winter swimming pool for training.

Gymnastics federation organises spring festival

AMMAN (J.T.) — Gymnastics Federation member Sahar Abu Anziah unveiled some of the technical performances which will be covered during the Spring Gymnastics Festival, due to be held on March 1st and 2nd at the Sports Palace at the Sports City in Amman.

Miss Abu Anziah said: "About 100 children will take part in the festival which is being organised by the federation's technical committee and the various training centres in Amman, Irbid, Salt and Wadi Seer."

The festival will include the following: Displays by children under eight years of age. Collective displays accompanied by music for children aged 8-12. Individual performances including floor movements and use of gymnastic apparatus to be performed by gymnasts of the national team.

DELUXE FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT
Two bedrooms, two bathrooms, open plan living/dining area, central heating and telephone.
Lovely residential area, 4th Circle, Jabal Amman.

DELUXE UNFURNISHED APARTMENTS FOR RENT
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DELUXE FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR SALE OR RENT
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Location: Shmeisani.
If interested, please call telephone: 73371 or 76944, Abu Aref, from 08:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Basketball Federation prepares for an eventful year

AMMAN (J.T.) — An invitation to national Egyptian basketball team to Jordan has been confirmed by the Jordanian Basketball Federation Chairman Vudat Al Majdoub, but time and details of the visit have not been announced yet.

Through a telephone contact with Mr. Ma'az Kheir, the federation's secretary, who is currently in Cairo Al Rai has learnt that he will meet Sunday with the chairman of the Egyptian Basketball Federation to discuss the visit.

The federation chairman said that the programme of the Jordanian Federation includes friendly matches with Romanian, Yugoslav, Soviet, Japanese and Greek teams. Contacts are currently underway for fixing dates of these matches during the summer season except June, Mr. Majdoub said.

The International Basketball Federation, said Mr. Majdoub, has for the first time listed on its agenda the Arab Youth Championship, which will be held in Jordan during August. In addition to the international preparatory course for referees.

The federation has started preparing for this championship and is waiting for the green light from the Ministry of Culture and Youth and the Youth Welfare Organisation. Mr. Majdoub further added.

The Federation chairman added that there is an intention to co-operate and co-ordinate with the Ministry of Education to benefit from the experience of Mr. Robert Taylor who is the national coach with a view to developing the 'Mini Basket' game and contributing to the preparation of the 'Mini Basket' school team.

Lendl, McEnroe in indoor final

PHILADELPHIA (R) — Top seeded Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia faces John McEnroe in Monday's finals of the \$300,000 U.S. Professional Indoor Tennis Championships after beating Yannick Noah of France 6-3, 6-4 Sunday.

The confrontation between Lendl and McEnroe, with the winner earning \$54,000, is a rematch of last year's final which the

American won in four sets.

Lendl thumped Noah, the number three seed, behind a powerful serve. He totalled seven aces for the match, and won six of his 11 service games at love.

Lendl broke Noah's serve in the fourth and eighth games of the opening set, and won his own service in the seventh game with three aces and a service winner.

Flame lit for Winter Games

ANCIENT OLYMPIA, Greece (R) — Athenian girls dressed in ancient Greek costumes Sunday lit the flame that will burn at next week's Winter Olympics in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia.

But as the ceremony took place at this beautiful site, venue of the ancient Olympics for over 1,000 years, controversy arose about the flame for the Summer Games in Los Angeles.

Spyros Foteinos, the mayor of this town of 3,000 people, announced the town council's opposition to plans by the organisers of the Los Angeles Games to allow commercial sponsors for the running of the summer flame across the United States.

Foteinos told Reuters the council had unanimously agreed "to oppose the attempt at commercialisation of the flame... and to keep unsullied the great symbol of world peace and brotherhood."

He said he would meet some of the Los Angeles organisers in Athens this week and tell them of the council's determination. After Sunday's ceremony, local athletes ran the flame five km to the nearby town of Platanos. It was to be flown to Athens and handed over to the games' organisers, who will take it by air to Dubrovnik, on Yugoslavia's Adriatic coast.

Riggers will carry the flame to Sarajevo, where it is due to arrive on February 7, the eve of the opening ceremony.

WENZEL TAKES 1ST WORLD CUP TITLE
GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN, West Germany (R) — Andreas Wenzel of Liechtenstein won a super-giant slalom race on the exacting Kandahar slope Sunday to take the alpine season's World Ski Cup combined title.

Wenzel skied brilliantly on a fast piste, which 38 of the 100 starters failed to complete, to finish in one minute 36.53 seconds, beating 'Super-G' specialist Pirmin Zurbriggen of Switzerland by just 0.09 of a second.

He said his victory and the combined title, his first since winning the overall World Cup in 1980,

had boosted his confidence in the week before the Winter Olympics in Sarajevo where he will race in the slalom and giant slalom.

Wenzel, who won a slalom at the start of the season, also improved his hopes of winning this year's overall World Cup, moving into second spot with 166 points, 41 behind the consistent Zurbriggen.

But he confessed: "It will be hard to catch Pirmin this year, he has a good attitude and a great talent."

Third Sunday was Austrian Hans Ertl with a time of 1:37.55.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

Consists of two bedrooms, living room, salon, two bathrooms, kitchen and storage room, with independent entrance, central heating and telephone.

Location: Near Engineer's Housing Estate, University of Jordan area.
Please call tel: 841852

For rent

Modern furnished apartments

A- Two bedrooms, living, dining room, kitchen and bathroom.
B- One bedroom, living room, kitchen and bathroom...
Central heating and telephone.
Location: A. Jabal Amman between 3rd & 4th Circle.
B. Shmeisani near Birds' garden

Tel. 41443

FURNISHED FLATS FOR RENT

Two flats, newly-furnished, unused, ground floor with a garden. Each apartment consists of 3 bedrooms, salons, dining room, three bathrooms, independent central heating.

Location: Al Swefish
If interested, please call telephone: 660369

BRITISH LADIES OF AMMAN

Monthly meeting will be held at the Regency Palace Hotel on Wednesday, Feb. 1, at 10 a.m.

Creche available

DELUXE FURNISHED FLAT FOR RENT

Consisting of two bedrooms and a third bedroom to be furnished as required, with central heating and a telephone.

Location: Sixth Circle, near Koreans' Building.
For further information please contact:
Tel: 814447 during the day
Tel: 71141, extension 21 during night.

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39474

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An international company has a vacancy for (a qualified) executive secretary. Candidate must be:

- 1) Fluent in Arabic and English (written and spoken), ability to translate from one language to the other.
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- 3) Salary depends on qualification and experience: (Minimum pay JD 230).

For appointment call tel: 663862, Amman.

BRITISH EMBASSY REGISTRATION FOR 1984: ANNUAL NOTICE SECOND REMINDER

If you are a British Citizen and live in Jordan, please contact the British Embassy Consular Section in order to obtain a registration form.

If you were registered with the Embassy for 1983 and have not yet confirmed your continuing presence in Jordan for 1984, please do so by contacting the Consular Section as soon as possible. Please also notify the Consular Section of any change of address and/or telephone number.

If you are a citizen of a Commonwealth country which does not have an Embassy or Consulate in Jordan, please ask at the British Embassy Consular Section about registration procedures.

The British Embassy is located on Third Circle in Jabal Amman. The telephone number is 41261 - 68, and the P.O. Box number is 87. The Embassy is open from Sunday until Thursday, from 0830 - 1330 hours.

AMMAN TRAVEL BUREAU

opens its Winter Season by inviting you to spend a holiday with your family in AQABA

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY Feb. 1, 2 and 3, 1984
DEPARTURE: 3 p.m. from Um Uthaina Hotel, 7th Circle

ACCOMMODATION:
First Class Hotel,
with two meals a day.

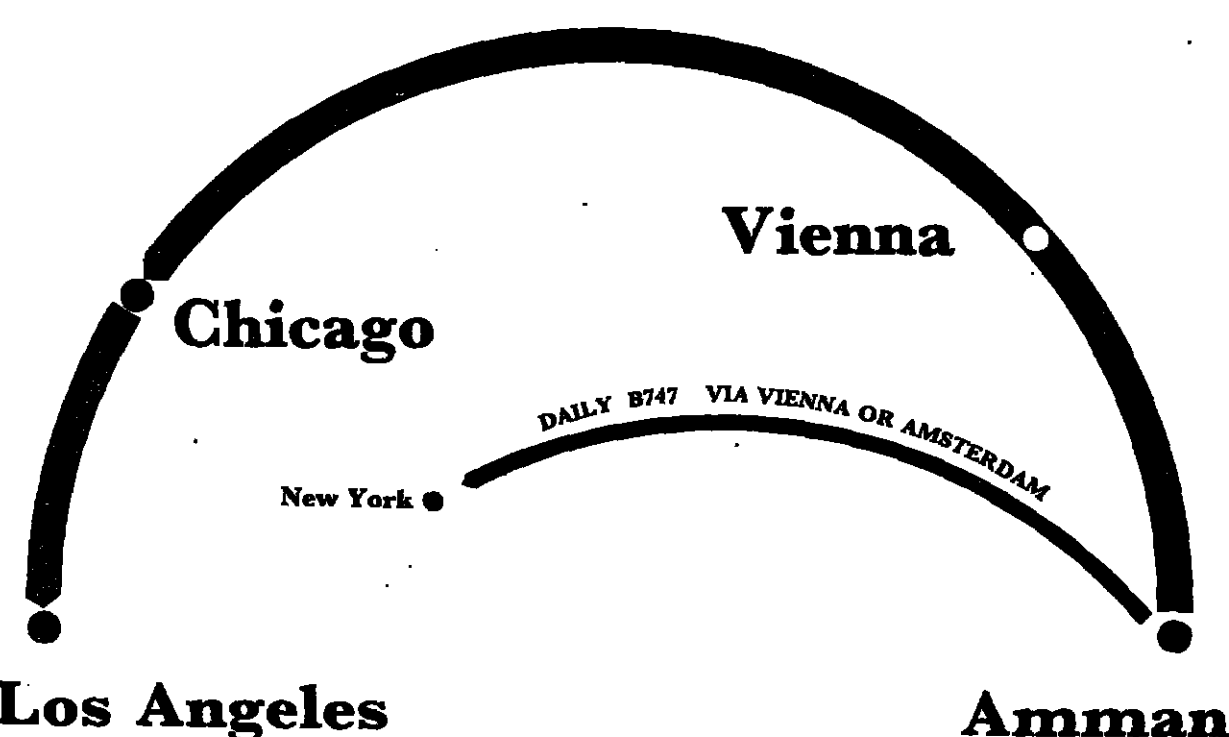
In addition, Amman by-night programme tour, dinner and evening party every Thursday night from 8 p.m. to midnight



ATE

For information and reservation:
44321 or call at:
AMMAN TRAVEL BUREAU
Jabal Amman, Third Circle,
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Days	Monday and Friday	
AMMAN	Dep	11.00
VIENNA	Arr	14.00
	Dep	15.00
CHICAGO	Arr	17.45
	Dep	18.45
LOS ANGELES	Arr	21.45

Alia: The Royal Jordanian Airline



Welcome to the world of Olivier where we invite you to voyage through 1984, as we prepare a different dish for each different taste, each and every month.

Be it a business lunch or a candlelight dinner, you'll experience our standard of gourmet perfection.

Our choice is yours

For reservations tel: 819564



Bulgarian industrial output rises 4.6%

VIENNA (R) — Bulgaria's industrial production rose by 4.6 per cent last year and the national income increased by three per cent, but harvests declined, the official news agency BTA said Saturday.

Foreign trade grew by 8.3 per cent, with the Soviet Bloc accounting for more than 57 per cent of its volume, BTA said quoting figures issued by the government information office.

Bad weather led to poorer crops of wheat, sunflower, sugar beet, tomatoes and grapes, and overall agricultural production was lower than in 1982, BTA said without giving figures.

The highest growths were in electronics, chemicals and power generation, but there were shortfalls in rolled steel, lorries, car batteries, fertilisers, some building materials and some types of canned foods.

E. Germany to buy Iranian oil

TEHRAN (R) — Iran will sell 1.5 million tonnes of crude oil to East Germany this year at the official price of \$29 per barrel, Tehran radio said Saturday.

It said East German Deputy Trade Minister Kalus Gaedi signed a contract for the purchase at a meeting with Iranian oil officials in Tehran last week.

Bahrain offshore bank assets rise

BAHRAIN (R) — Assets of offshore banks in Bahrain rose last November to their highest level in 14 months, Bahrain Monetary Agency officials said Sunday.

They said assets rose to \$59.3 billion in November, the fourth successive monthly increase, from \$58.0 billion in October.

Assets last stood above November's level in September 1982, when they were at \$59.5 billion. Assets peaked in August 1982 at \$61.1 billion, declining to a 1983 low in July of \$55.5 billion.

The officials said a currency or geographical breakdown of the assets was not immediately available.

Slump in demand hits Algerian gas exports

ALGIERS (R) — Foreign customers for Algerian liquefied natural gas (LNG) are baulking at fulfilling contracts now that an expected energy famine has turned into a glut.

The latest blow was a decision this month by Panhandle Eastern, a major U.S. pipeline company, to freeze its contract to import 90 billion cubic metres of LNG over 20 years.

The indefinite freeze, following haggling with Spain and a request from Belgium to be allowed to reduce its imports, comes at a difficult time for Algeria.

The country's repayments on large sums borrowed in the 1970s to finance investment in LNG peaked in 1983 when about \$4.5 billion was due.

But Western economic analysts expect the figure to fall gradually to \$2.8 billion in 1986 and say Algeria's long-term prospects are

still good, as it is sitting on gas reserves estimated at more than 3,000 billion cubic metres.

Algeria cautiously tailored its financial needs to its means and has retained international creditworthiness, as shown by its recent successful Eurodollar loans, they say.

Large-scale exploitation of natural gas from the Sahara's Hassi Rmel gas field forms part of Algeria's plans to diversify its revenues, breaking a dependence on crude oil exports.

With dwindling oil reserves likely to be exhausted by the year 2005 if exports had continued at the same rate as in the 1970s, Algerian leaders decided to concentrate instead on natural gas, refined products, condensate and LNG.

Algeria's foreign earnings from oil products were about \$12.5 billion in 1983 and should be about

the same this year, divided about equally between crude oil, condensate, gas, and refined products from the refinery at Skikda, eastern Algeria, Western economists say.

While crude oil exports may be adapted to demand simply by turning a tap, LNG involves heavy investment.

On the other hand, the producer benefits from the fact that importers must also invest in transport and units to turn the product back into gas, which implies long-term contracts.

Besides laying hundreds of kilometres of pipes, Algeria built three liquefaction plants in western Algeria — two at Arzew, with an annual capacity of 10.5 billion cubic metres, and one at Skikda with a capacity of 8.5 billion cubic metres.

The three units were completed between 1978 and 1982 and, with

growth. The target for industrial growth in 1984 is 3.4 per cent.

The Soviet Council of Ministers noted last Wednesday there were still "substantial shortcomings in many sectors of the economy" despite the improved figures.

Mr. Andropov presented a report to the Communist Party last December criticising slack labour discipline, poor management and aspects of the centralised planning system.

All have been targets of his effort to tighten up the economy.

The figures of the statistics board showed the economic plan had been fulfilled in most sectors but not for production of steel, coal, mineral fertilisers and some manufactured items, including tractors and turbines.

Agricultural output rose by five

per cent compared with four per cent in 1982, the report indicated. But for the third year running it did not give the key grain harvest figure.

This has been made a state secret in the Soviet Union, but Western economic experts estimate the harvest was about 200 million tonnes last year, the best figure since 1978.

Meat production reached 16 million tonnes, compared with 15.4 million last year, according to the figures.

Milk output also improved, rising to 96.4 million tonnes from 91 million tonnes in 1982.

Both showed a further decline on last year, registering 9.2 million tonnes against 9.3 million tonnes last year.

The Soviet press reported late last year that cold weather had

made cotton-harvesting difficult and reduced the size of the crop. Before this Western experts had predicted a record crop.

Oil production rose by 0.6 per cent to 616 million tonnes, including gas condensate.

Gas output increased by seven per cent to 536 million cubic metres, above the planned target.

But coal production was below

target and dropped to 716 million tonnes from 718 million tonnes last year.

Steel output, at 153 million tonnes against 147 million tonnes in 1982, was also below the planned target.

The statistics board also said the Soviet population on Jan. 1 was 273.8 million, an increase of 1.3 million over the past six months.

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The daytime finds you able to start the week in a constructive fashion by organizing and arranging your career activities according to your long-term desires. Seek advice.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Get into activities that can put you in the public eye and will give you a chance to get ahead in your career.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Before getting into that new course of action, be sure to consult one who has much experience along such lines of endeavor.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Use those systems that have worked successfully in the past in dealing with persons in business and gain profit.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Showing your partners that you operate very sensibly is wise and you gain their added cooperation.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Make sure you understand your job thoroughly and handle it efficiently so you gain the respect of higher-ups and co-workers.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Take care you do not overstep where recreation is concerned and try to cut down on such in the future.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Make sure that all home matters are solidly based and rid yourself of whatever is obsolete or unworkable.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Begin the week properly by answering any letters that are important and putting in motion any new enterprises.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Look into the monetary side of any situation today and everything turns out all right for you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get that new course of activity started that will last for some time. Tonight, be sure to rest up for the week ahead.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Plan and handle practical affairs wisely and stop all that daydreaming and socializing that gets you nowhere.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have fine capability for getting projects down to a workable level and also handling details precisely. Utilize this.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be a born organizer, especially where property and land development is concerned. Be sure to slant the education along financial and business lines in order to make the most of this capability.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!
© 1984, The McNaught Syndicate, Inc.

Libya seeks external aid to pipe water from desert

TRIPOLI (R) — Libya is seeking external aid to pay for one of the Middle East's largest single contracts, \$3.3 billion for a project to pipe water lying beneath its vast desert to the country's northern coast.

Western diplomats here said Libya, whose annual oil revenues have fallen because of a world oil glut to less than half the 1980 figure, last year approached Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates for cash to help finance the project.

Libya is keen to begin the project, fearing natural underground

springs in the northern coastal area currently supplying most fresh water needs will soon become too saline, the sources said.

But so far the three conservative Gulf states, at odds with the radical Libyan government over oil policies and ideology, have not responded and there are doubts that the pipeline project will ever get started.

Rapid industrial and agricultural expansion financed by the country's oil revenues, and steady population growth as a result of improved health facilities have been two factors leading to over-exploitation of underground

springs in coastal areas.

As these springs have been tapped faster than rainfall has replenished them, underground water levels have fallen and in places sea water has permeated the water-bearing rocks.

An alternative to these sources is to tap water from reservoirs lying beneath the desert, which covers more than 90 per cent of Libya.

The project entails digging almost 300 wells to extract water and piping it to the coastal areas, where most of the country's population of three million lives, for use in agriculture and industry.

The pipeline would be able to carry 700 million cubic metres of water per year — water said to be of high quality and thought to have been trapped in rocks thousands of years ago.

A large-diameter trunk pipeline using pre-stressed concrete cylinder pipe would lead north from

Sarir and Tazerbo deep in the southeastern desert to the coast where branch lines would run north east to Benghazi and west to Sir.

The total length of the planned pipeline is 1,895 kilometres. Water pumped through it would be used to irrigate 120,000 hectares of coastal farmland.

An extension of the line southwards from Sarir to Kufra planned in a second phase would bring the northward flow of water to 3.6 million cubic metres per day.

Dong Ah, a South Korean business group, in November was awarded a six-year, \$3.3 billion contract to manufacture and lay pipes. The total cost of the project is about \$5 billion.

A U.S. engineering firm, Price Brothers, will provide technology under a separate contract worth about \$600 million, the sources said.

But there is scepticism here over whether Tripoli will be able to finance the project given a drop in oil revenues from \$22 billion in 1980 to an estimated \$10 billion in 1983.

Libya depends on oil revenues to finance about 99 per cent of its development plans, diplomatic sources said, adding that annual defence expenditure is about \$5 billion.

The sources said they doubted Libya would be able to pay the \$275 million Dong Ah has been reported to be asking as down payment.

According to the state-run Libyan press, the United States, which has no diplomatic relations with Libya, has extended its two-year old ban on the export of U.S. technology to Libya to include technology used in irrigation.

But the diplomatic sources said they were not aware of such a decision and that the reason for any

delay in the project was likely to be Libyan inability to pay its contractors.

To adjust to declining oil revenues, the General People's Congress early last year decided that no new contracts would be signed in 1983 except for certain unspecified strategic projects.

Major aims of the 1981-85 development project were to approach self-sufficiency in agriculture and build a heavy industrial base to offset current dependence on oil. The water pipeline project is clearly important in meeting such goals.

Water from desalination plants being established along the coast is too costly for irrigation, Libya's main long-term water demand.

President Muammar Qadhafi in a speech in September said that no country could be free if it was not self-sufficient in food, but diplomatic sources said Libya was still far from this goal.

THE BETTER HALF By Harris

"We're just a typical two-income family with a four-income budget!"

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RATAO
ULIGE
TUPSID
LAHMYN

Oh, what a night!

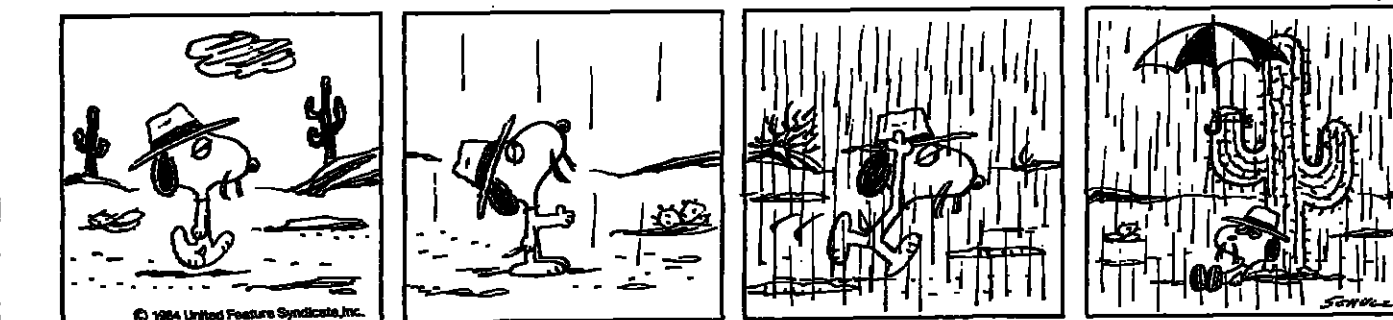
WHAT KIND OF AN EXPERIENCE WAS IT WHEN HE LOOKED INTO THE MIRROR?

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: A ONE (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ROBIN OPIUM GEYSER JANGLE
Answer: This was the grand way in which she proclaimed that she was a top model — "I'M-POSING"

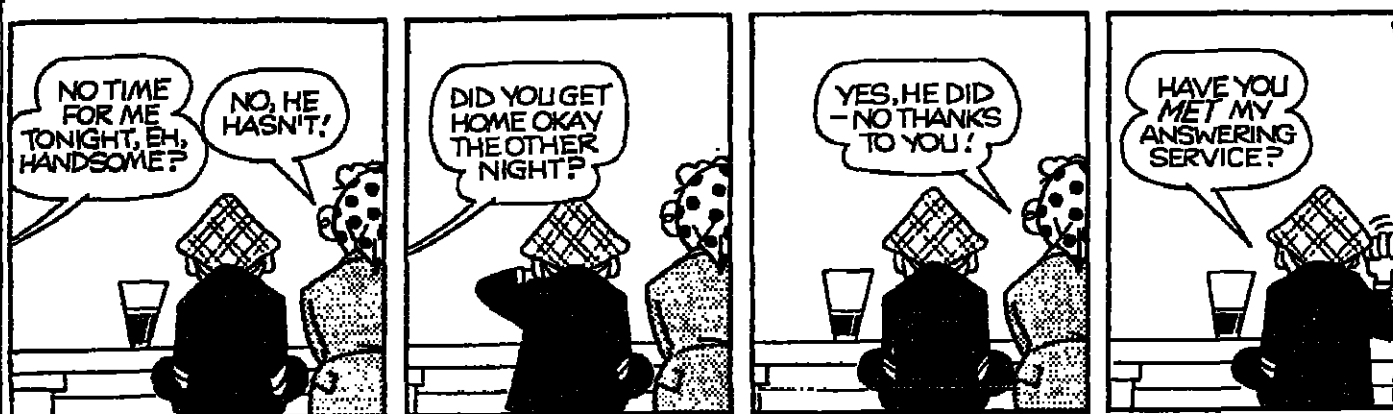
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



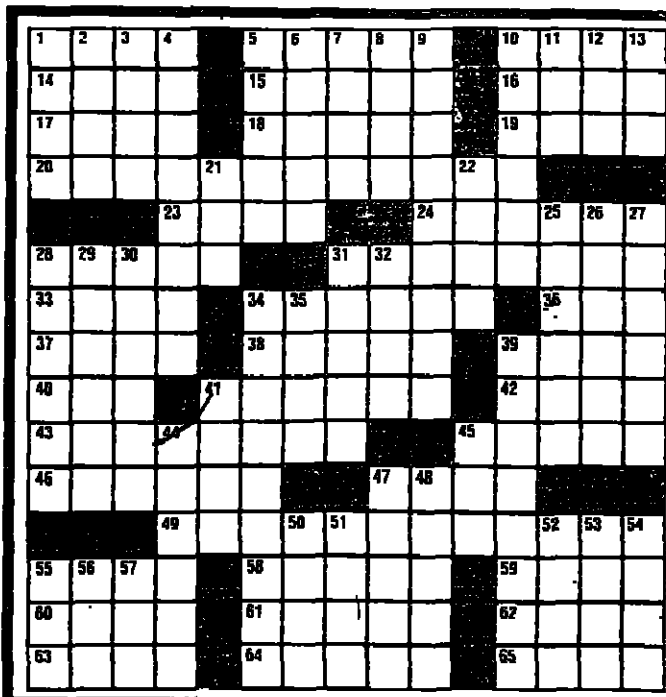
THE Daily Crossword by Sophie Fierman

ACROSS	24 Malaysian palm	45 Fourth estate	12 Barker of movies
1 Beer ingredient	28 Grand house	46 Throughfare	13 Dine
5 Male servant	31 Follow closely	47 Footnote word	21 Corn unit
10 "Thereby hangs a..."	33 Be an accessory	49 Makes poor preparation	22 Sketch
14 Money exchange premium	34 Pushcart	55 Carle	26 Dwarfs
15 Winged	36 Beetle	58 Banquet	27 Shade trees
16 Sudden thought	37 In addition	59 Bread spread	28 Most efficient
17 — bien	38 Atlantic, for one	60 Touched ground	30 Neither male nor female
18 Gist	39 Get hot under the collar	61 Improper	31 Corners
19 Immediately following	40 Allow	62 Exploited	32 Macaws
20 Unsubstantial situation	41 Coercion	63 Dozes	34 Lavish
23 Separate	42 To shelter	64 Misplaces	35 Land measure
	43 Bean alkaloids	65 Hullahalloo	36 Leases

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

DOWN

1 School subj.	41 God: Fr.
2 Soil prefix	44 Contradicts by proof
3 Stead	45 Sty
4 Imbibers	47 Distribute
5 Steam	48 Lavishes love
6 On high	50 Gauze
7 Not of the clergy	51 Fathers
8 Lab burner	52 Besides
9 Four-sided figures: rare	53 Require
10 Decorative threads	54 Dumb one
11 Fruit drink	55 "Arms and the —"
	56 Guidonian note
	57 Small drink



France warns of clashes if Libya crosses 'red line'

PARIS (AP) — France has made clear there will be a direct confrontation if Libya's troops or the rebels Libya supports dare cross the French forward line in Chad.

The French troops are backing the forces of Chadian President Hissene Habre in their civil war against Libyan-backed rebels loyal to former President Goukouni Oueddei, the man Mr. Habre ousted.

On Friday, the French expanded their area of control in Chad an average of 90 miles (150 kilometres) north of the 15th parallel to the 16th parallel and the 3,000 troops were ordered to fire "without warning" on any "hostile elements" that tried to cross the new line.

Additional F-1 Mirage interceptors and Jaguar fighter planes have been sent to Chad's capital of N'Djamena, and French helicopter patrols began Saturday along the new defensive perimeter.

"No hostile presence was detected," the Defence Ministry reported.

The moves were in response to a ground raid, allegedly by Libyan forces, inside government- and French-controlled territory, which resulted in the downing of a French jet fighter plane Wednesday. The pilot was killed, becoming the first French casualty since France intervened in August.

Libya says the raid was carried out by Mr. Goukouni's rebels.

The new tough posture by France indicates President Francois Mitterrand is no longer simply trying to contain the Libyan and rebel advance in Chad. He is trying to push it back for the first time in this latest outbreak of what has been almost continual civil war for

19 years in Chad.

The new French defensive line for the first time places French forces inside the potential range of Libyan warplanes based in south-east Libya and the disputed Aouzou strip in northern Chad.

It also advances the French position to within 120 miles (200 kilometres) of the oasis town of Faya-Largeau, Libya's main advance base. France claims Libyan forces have enlarged Faya-Largeau's air strip to handle transport planes and intends to expand it further to accommodate jet fighters.

That would give Libya, which denies it has any forces at all in Chad, the capability of attacking N'Djamena by air, Saturday night, Abdelrahman Moussa, Paris-based spokesman for the rebels' Chad Government of National Unity, said France had "poured oil on the fire" by advancing north.

"Naturally, France must prepare itself for an appropriate reaction," he added.

Protesters camp outside Manila

MANILA (R) — Hundreds of anti-government demonstrators were preparing Sunday to spend a second night in the open as troops and police armed with rifles and truncheons blocked the main highway north of Manila to prevent them entering the Philippines' capital.

Protest march leader Agtito "Butz" Aquino, brother of slain opposition leader Benigno Aquino, said he and his supporters were determined to enter Manila.

"We are going to stay right here until the authorities allow us to enter Manila and reach the airport," he said.

The marchers protesting against a constitutional referendum on Friday, set out on Friday on a 90-mile (145-kilometre) walk from Tarlac, Mr. Aquino's hometown. On the way thousands of people joined the march billed as Tarlac-to-Tarnac.

Their destination was Manila Airport, where former Senator Benigno Aquino was shot dead last August as he returned from three years of voluntary exile in the United States to unite opposition to President Ferdinand Marcos.

The marchers spent the night outside a church after armed police backed by fire engines with water cannons halted them at the city's edge, saying they were "disrupting traffic and encouraging anarchy."

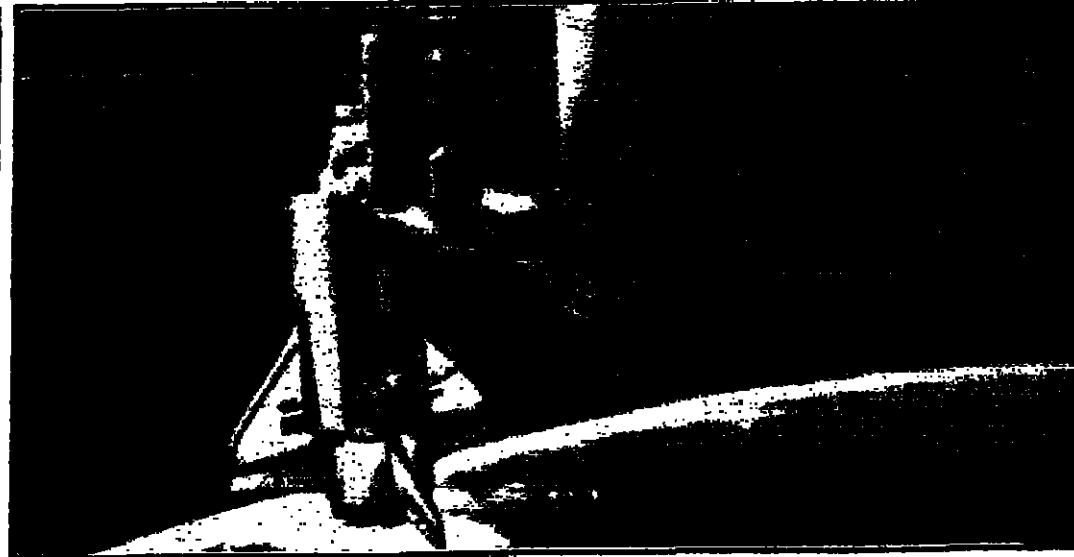
Mr. Aquino said the protesters would stay where they were for weeks if the government refused to allow them into Manila.

"We don't care how long it takes for the authorities to give us permission. We don't understand why the government has panicked," he said.

Mr. Aquino said the official 70 per cent turnout figure for the referendum had been padded and the real turnout was about 30 per cent.

Mr. Butz Aquino, leader of a group called Justice for Aquino, Justice for All (JAJA), said his lawyers were meeting the chief of the Philippine Constabulary to seek permission to enter Manila.

The lawyers said if permission was not given JAJA would organise simultaneous rallies inside Manila and in the provinces to pressurise the government.



The NASA illustration, showing the Lyndon Johnson Space Centre, is one of NASA's space station design reference configurations. (A.P. wirephoto)

Reagan says space station to boost commerce

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan said Saturday that the manned orbiting space station he has proposed would open opportunities for greater commerce, and he encouraged international participation in the project.

The president wrote to Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone to ask Japan to participate in the space station work. A Japanese Foreign Ministry official said.

In his weekly radio address to the nation, Mr. Reagan said: "By reaching for exciting goals in space, we'll serve the cause of peace and create a better life for all of us here on earth."

Mr. Reagan, in his state of the union address on Wednesday, said he was directing the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to develop the space station within a decade.

The total cost of the project is estimated at \$8 billion, and administration officials have said Mr. Reagan will request startup money of \$150 million in the 1985 budget proposal he will send to Congress this week.

"It will be a base for many kinds of scientific, commercial and industrial activities, and a stepping stone for further goals, the president said in his radio speech."

Mr. Reagan said that scientists from NASA, universities and private industry would use it for research that is "only possible in a zero-gravity and vacuum of space." He said that private industry would pay for expansions of the facility so that companies could manufacture new products.

Meanwhile, Mr. Reagan's science adviser said the space station should envision plans for defensive systems in space, but there is little military use for the station that has been proposed.

Science Adviser George Keyworth, speaking in an interview for broadcast Sunday on New York television station WPIX, said the Soviet Union is doing "an immense amount" in space weapons technology, and the United States needs to keep up.

He said the Soviets were working "both in terms of what we call directed energy weapons, that's lasers and particle beams. They have also developed missiles to intercept other missiles. The Soviets are, and will continue to make progress."

But he said the military use of the proposed space station was "approximately zero." He said the project was important partly because "the space programme is immensely important to the public. It's immensely important to our international image, and it offers us new opportunities that we haven't been fully able to assess yet."

Non-Aligned Movement to reaffirm support for UNESCO on Monday

JAKARTA (R) — The Non-Aligned Movement is expected to reaffirm its support for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Monday but refrain from direct criticism of the U.S. for its intended withdrawal.

An official spokesman at a Conference of Non-Aligned information ministers in Jakarta said a drafting committee representing all 60-plus countries approved a motion on UNESCO Saturday night that would go before Monday's final session.

He said the motion would mention the need for universal membership of U.N. bodies but would not refer to the announced intention of the U.S. to pull out by 1985.

"The resolution is not based on confrontation," the spokesman said. "That's why we'll utilise 'universality'."

Left-wing members of the

Non-Aligned Movement such as Cuba and Nicaragua wanted a strong condemnation, but the spokesman's remarks indicated that moderate countries including Indonesia, India, Yugoslavia and Egypt had prevailed.

Washington last month served a year's notice of its withdrawal from UNESCO because it said the organisation was becoming too politicised, had mismanaged its budget and was trying to restrict press freedom.

The Cubans typically condemned the move as coercion and blackmail, and said President Reagan would end up like the lone ranger if he continued withdrawing from U.N. bodies.

While refraining from criticising the U.S. however, UNESCO Spokesman Dileep Padgaonkar Sunday issued a strong defence of his organisation, which he said was working for more than just the "new world communications and

information order" which is the theme of non-aligned conference. UNESCO had taught 15 million people in poor countries to read and write, he said, and trained 15,000 teachers.

Its budget represented little more than what was spent every two and a half hours on armaments or the cost of five Boeing jumbo jets, he said.

A London firm of independent auditors had verified its accounts, its management had been praised as forward-looking by a U.S. comptroller-general, and UNESCO had again and again expressed a commitment to press freedom and pluralism in the media, Mr. Padgaonkar said.

The U.S. contributed about a quarter of UNESCO's annual budget of \$187 million, although its 1984 share will be less than 14 per cent due to the strength of the dollar, he said.

Rangoon poised to capture more Karen rebel bases

BAGKOK (R) — Burmese troops are poised to capture three more bases from Karen rebels following the fall Saturday of the insurgents' biggest stronghold. Thai border police sources said Sunday.

Some 2,000 Burmese troops are confronting 600 guerrillas holding out at Mae Salit Camp where the Karens freed a kidnapped French technician and his wife last November after weeks of captivity, the sources said.

The campaign against the separatist Karens, who have battled Rangoon's forces since Burma's independence from Britain in 1948, is regarded as one of the most determined in years and is being waged in the southeast of the country close to the Thai border.

Two weeks of artillery and mor-

tar attacks led guerrillas of the Karen National Union (KNU) to give up their stronghold at Mae Taw Woh, 27 kilometres north of Mae Salit Saturday.

The Thai sources said that 5,000 Karen refugees had entered Thailand over the past two weeks and the flow indicated that the rebels expected further attacks.

In addition, 1,600 Thais were evacuated from a border village hit by Burmese mortar rounds a few days ago.

Thai sources said a Burmese reconnaissance plane flew over a 60 kilometre stretch of the border Saturday to assess rebel strength.

They added that Burmese artillery and mortar fire died down Sunday as government troops moved in to take over complete control of Mae Taw Woh.

Pakistan accuses Kabul of killing 40 in air raid

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Pakistan on Saturday accused Afghanistan of sending jet fighters on a bombing raid over a Pakistani border region where anti-Communist rebels were allegedly harboured. It said at least 40 people were killed.

Foreign Ministry officials said 50 to 60 other people were injured during strafing of the region, in the remote province of Waziristan, 384 kilometres southwest of Islamabad.

Preliminary reports said two Soviet-built fighters swooped over the area, dropped one bomb and fired approximately 100 rockets just before noon Friday. The dead reportedly included five Afghan refugees.

The officials said the reported death toll may rise because investigations have been hampered by limited communications facilities in the region.

Fazle Haq, governor of Pakistan's north-west frontier province, called the attack "savagery" and warned that Pakistan is "losing patience and tolerance."

"The time has come to review such humiliations," he told a civic reception in Peshwar, the provincial capital. "We are not too weak to defend ourselves."

In Washington, the State Department called the incident "tragic and deplorable."

Informed Pakistani government sources, who spoke on condition they not be identified, said two Afghan fighter planes crossed a few hundred metres into Pakistani territory in pursuit of an Afghan insurgent force from Urogoon, about 32 kilometres from the border in southeast Afghanistan's Pakhtia province.

Michael Jackson leaves hospital

LOS ANGELES (R) — Pop singer Michael Jackson was released from hospital Saturday night "in cheerful spirits" less than 24 hours after his hair caught fire in a film accident, his doctor said.

Dr. Steven Hoeftlin had said earlier the 25-year-old singer would remain in Brotman Memorial Hospital for several days.

"Michael is very tired," Dr. Hoeftlin told a news conference Saturday. "Some skin on his scalp was burned away and there is also the fear of infection."

But soon afterwards, Jackson left hospital, apparently on his way to his Los Angeles home. Dr. Hoeftlin said he had consulted another hospital doctor and they had agreed there would be no danger in releasing Jackson.

He said Jackson, the former lead singer in the Jackson 5 who has sold an estimated 120 million records, would be treated on a daily basis as an out-patient. Jackson, who had recently let his hair grow longer, was making a television commercial for a soft drink firm on Friday when sparks set his hair on fire.

A smoke bomb being used in the scene exploded behind Jackson as he came down a stairway singing commercial lyrics to his hit song "Billie Jean" his spokesman, John Branca, said.

Democratic candidates blast Reagan

WASHINGTON (AP) — Aiming direct shots at President Ronald Reagan a day before he announces his re-election plans, Democratic candidates Walter Mondale and Gary Hart on Saturday accused the incumbent of planning a secret, post-election tax increase and condoning wrongdoing in his administration.

"Obviously, Reagan is planning to raise taxes after the election," Mr. Mondale told a news conference in Sacramento, California.

"There's no question they're going to raise taxes. What they are trying to keep from the American public is who's going to pay those taxes."

Mr. Hart, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, told about 200 students at George Washington High School that Mr. Reagan shows a "contempt for the public trust" by tolerating unethical behaviour and abuses of power within his administration.

"Abuse of government has become a way of life in this administration," he said. "Yet, it seems to concern no one very much, including the president himself."

"We can no longer tolerate an administration that keeps people in office as long as they cannot be found guilty of criminal offenses," Mr. Mondale, who picked up the endorsement Saturday of former Gov. Pat Brown and several other leading California

Democrats, contrasted what he said is likely to be Mr. Reagan's approach to raising taxes in 1985 which his own \$60 billion proposal.

"What he's talking about is a flat tax that hits the very people who didn't get any relief (in earlier Reagan tax cuts) and leaves the wealthy and the profit-making corporations in a position where they continue their enormous tax relief, or a national sales tax, which slugs that average family the hardest," Mr. Mondale said.

The proposals outlined this week by Mondale, the acknowledged front-runner among the eight major Democratic candidates, is aimed primarily at the wealthy and corporations — calling for a 15 per cent minimum income tax on corporations.

Reagan to disclose plans

In Washington President Reagan was expected to disclose his re-election, and the senior aide with the closest personal ties to the president said "I'm sure he's going to announce" his candidacy for a second term.

The statement by Michael K. Deaver, deputy chief of the White House staff, came as close as any to a flat declaration that Mr. Reagan will run.

The 72-year-old president has been coy, telling people to tune in to a broadcast at 10:55 p.m. Sun-

day (0355 GMT Monday) to find out.

But the establishment of an extensive re-election apparatus, the mood of his aides, and the timing of the announcement — too late in the political cycle to give fellow Republicans a chance to organise a thorough campaign for themselves — leaves almost no suspense.

"He feels a great sense of duty and he knows the job isn't finished," Mr. Deaver said. "In his own frame of mind, it would be very hard to go back (to his California ranch) and dig post holes" and deliver dinner speeches as a retired president.

"I'm sure he's going to announce," Mr. Deaver said, adding that "no one ever runs" for the presidency for just a four-year term and then steps down voluntarily.

The Reagan-Bush '84 committee, in operation on two floors of an office building at the foot of Capitol Hill for several months, budgeted \$500,000 for the announcement. But actual costs are expected to be \$400,000, campaign committee spokesman said.

The spokesman said he expected the speech to be "a condensed and more dramatic version" of the State of the Union address the president delivered Wednesday evening.

"He will remind people where we were when he got elected, what

needs to be done, and his hope and optimism for the future," he said.

Vice President George Bush, like millions of other Americans, will be sitting at home watching the late-night televised announcement.

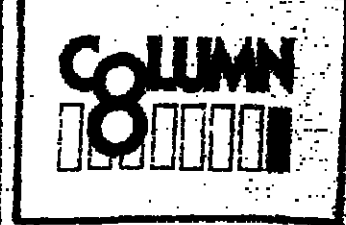
Aside from the president, no one has a bigger stake in Sunday's announcement than Mr. Bush, who fought Mr. Reagan for the Republican nomination in 1980.

Yet, in Reagan stuns the nation and says he will go into retirement after four years in power, Mr. Bush's standing as vice president would transform him into the immediate front-runner over other possible Republican contenders such as Senators Howard Baker and Bob Dole and Representative Jack Kemp.

A survey of Republican Party officials last year showed that he was a heavy favourite to be the party's candidate if Mr. Reagan doesn't run.

But the vice president has been saying for more than a year that he expects Mr. Reagan will run and will win.

"I've said over and over again that I am totally confident that the president will run, and the only people that have not believed me have been (House Speaker Thomas) Tip O'Neill and certain members of the media," Mr. Bush said in a broadcast interview released Saturday. "I'm convinced he will."



Surgeons snip away snorers' sorrow

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — An operation similar to removing the tonsils has been developed for chronic cases of snoring, physicians at Stanford University Medical Centre said. About 250 snorers have already been operated on successfully, according to surgeon Martin Hopp. "One fellow had a real financial hardship," Dr. Hopp said. "He and his wife travelled together on business, and he snored so loudly they had to take separate motel rooms." Another patient, he said, had his nose broken three times while in the army by fellow soldiers who could not sleep because of his snoring. In the operation, which costs \$2,500, surgeons carve away a layer of tissue at the back and sides of the throat and reduce or remove the uvula, the tissue that hangs down at the back of the mouth.

Beards once sacred now unhygienic

MOSCOW (R) — Beards, once a sacred part of Russian dress, were declared unhygienic by a Soviet newspaper which encouraged citizens to shave them off. The trades union's newspaper Trud quoted researchers at the Soviet Academy of Medical Science as saying beards and big mustaches collected germs which were sucked into the lungs. The newspaper said: "beards, take a shave, the hygienists warn in the face of fashion." Thick beards are still worn by all Russian Orthodox priests, continuing an age-old tradition, and some young "hippies" also have them, but none of the ruling politburo is bearded. Beards were the subject of intense symbolic conflict at the start of the 19th century when Tsar Peter the Great anxious to modernise Russia, took shears to the conventional furry chins of his courtiers.

Turtle to get by with 1 front flipper

ISLA MORADA, Florida (R) — Lucky the turtle will have to get by with only one front flipper. Still, that's one more than she had a couple of weeks ago and her keepers say she should do well. A Miami orthopaedic surgeon tried but failed to reattach a rubber flipper that fell off earlier this week. Lucky, a 160 kilogramme lugherhead, lost her natural paddling tools to a shark last year. Earlier this month, surgeon Patrick Barry gave her a new steel belted pair made by a tyre company and a manufacturer of surgical implants.

Beer that had something extra

PEKING (R) — An unauthorised version of China's famous "hundred pleasures" beer definitely had something extra, and it wasn't any fun, a newspaper said. It consisted of untreated fishpond water, detergent, sodium bicarbonate, tea, artificial flavouring and brown sugar, the Yangcheng Evening News said, adding it made drinkers ill. Eight racketeers faking "hundred pleasures" at Zhangjiang in southern China were fined and now await further punishment. This and other brewing rackets led the Canton factory minting the true brew to print its name in red on bottles to protect imbibers, the newspaper said.

Rats too become alcoholics

LOS ANGELES (R) — Rats can become problem drinkers, says Dr. Gaylord Ellison, a professor of psychology. He should know. He has worked with some of the hardest-drinking rats ever to hang round a bar. Dr. Ellison, of the University of California at Los Angeles, is using animals to help him in his research into alcoholism. To link his research more closely with human behaviour, Dr. Ellison has given his rats their own bar. The rats have their own private living quarters — burrows — an eating area and a recreational area, with ramps and ropes for climbing, as well as their bar. Dr. Ellison said his studies show most of the rat colony drink the "hard stuff" in moderation but nine per cent of the rats become problem drinkers. His research showed the heavy drinkers in the rat colony — not unlike their human counterparts — eat less than their mates, spend more time in their burrows, drink mostly in the morning and slip down the social scale.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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BACK WINNER, NOT FAVORITE

North-South vulnerable.
North deals.

NORTH
♠ 532
♥ A9
♦ KQ1075
♣ 853

WEST EAST
♠ Void ♠ Q86
♥ Q1082 ♥ K754
♦ 9642 ♦ A38
♣ Q1076 ♣ J94

SOUTH
♠ A K J 10974
♥ 63
♦ 3
♣ A K 2

The bidding:
North East South West
Pass Pass 4 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass
Opening lead: Queen of ♠.

Here's another of those strange hands where your result should depend on whether you are playing duplicate or rubber bridge. At duplicate, you should go down; at rubber bridge you should make four spades.

We don't approve of South's decision to open four spades, even third-in-hand, opposite a passed partner — it is too easy to miss a slam. There is no reason not to open one spade.

At duplicate, correct technique is to duck the first heart and win the continuation. Now lead a trump to the king. Since the most likely trump distribution is 2-1, more often than not you will end up making an overtrick because you can discard your club loser on the diamonds, using the five of trumps as an entry. When West shows out on the first round of trumps, you will end up losing a trick in each suit unless the defense slips. However, you will have done no worse than the rest of the field.

At rubber bridge, however, you should make your contract! After winning the ace of hearts, you should lead a trump to the jack. If it loses, you don't mind. That means trumps are breaking no worse than 2-1, and you will be able to use your trump entry to the table to take your club discard and so you lose a trick in each suit except clubs.

As the cards lie, your finesse succeeds and you don't lose a trump trick, just one trick in each plain suit. So your safety play to protect against a 3-0 split pays a huge dividend.